

Report to	-	Audit and Standards Committee
Date	-	26 June 2017
Report of the	-	Monitoring Officer
Subject	-	Code of Conduct Complaints Monitoring

Recommendation: It be **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

Service Manager: John Collins

Introduction

1. This routine report sets out brief details of the complaints received since the last meeting; as agreed by the former Standards Committee, this report will present cases on a 6 monthly rolling basis.

Complaints Received

2. As agreed by the Standards Committee at its last meeting in December, the identity of Members is not divulged for all unsubstantiated complaints. The identity of Members (and complainants) will only be published where there has been informal action taken or an investigation and subsequent hearing that has concluded that a Member has broken the Code of Conduct.
3. One complaint has been received in this period as detailed in Appendix 1.
4. The outstanding 2016 complaint (C16-04) has been resolved. This complaint centred around Sedlescombe Parish Council and Planning. Informal action was taken on some issues. A formal investigation was conducted into some aspects of the complaint. The investigation concluded no fault on the part of the Councillors involved. The complaint was therefore closed. As this complaint was outstanding under the previous reporting arrangements we have reported this more fully.
5. The Parish Councillor complaint at Northiam was discussed with the Council's Independent Person(s), and resulted in informal action.
6. There are no outstanding complaints.
7. Relatively few informal issues have been raised during this period.

John Collins
Monitoring Officer

Risk Assessment Statement

There are no risks associated with this report.

MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS SUMMARY SHEET

REF	DATE RECEIVED	COMPLAINANT	SUBJECT MEMBER	COMPLAINT AND DECISION
C16-04 (a-i)	October/November 2016	Councillors Oliver, Prochak, Vine-Hall (Sedlescombe), Sedlescombe Parish Clerk & members of the public.	Rother District Councillors Mrs Barnes, Ganly, Graham, Watson	Informal action was taken in respect of some parts of the complaint. Parts of the complaint were formally investigated, with the outcome report clearing the Councillors investigated (Mrs Barnes and Ganly).
C17-01	23 March 2017	Mr J Exley	Councillor Sargent - Northiam Parish Council	Informal outcome – the Councillor was reminded of the importance of considering a Personal Interest declaration