

**Joint Standards Committee**

**19<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

## **Report of the Monitoring Officer**

### **Monitoring Report on Complaints Received**

#### **Summary**

1. This report updates the Committee on current complaints.
2. Since the Committee last met in January two new complaints have been received both against City Councillors relating to behaviour in Council meetings. Both were both brought by other Councillors.
3. The first case was referred to an Assessment Sub Committee which determined that no action was required in the circumstances. The second complaint was withdrawn.
4. The Committee has previously expressed a view that complaints between Councillors should generally be discouraged and that the standards system primarily exists for members of the public to raise ethical concerns. The Committee may wish to remind Group Leaders and Whips of their views on this matter.

#### **Recommendations**

5. Members are recommended to:
  - 1) Note the report
  - 2) Instruct the Monitoring Officer to write to Group Leaders and Whips to remind them that the Committee expects that they will be proactive in seeking to resolve differences between Councillors and to ask them to use their influence to avoid standards complaints being submitted.

Reason: To ensure that the Committee is aware of current levels of activity and that the standards complaints system is used for its primary purpose.

## Contact Details

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Report  
Approved



Date 06/04/17

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None