
Meeting	Joint Standards Committee - Assessments Sub-Committee
Date	23 February 2018
Present	Councillors Hayes and Runciman (CYC Members) Councillor Perrett (Parish Council Member)
In Attendance	Ms Davies and Mr Laverick (Independent Persons)

15. Appointment of Chair

Resolved: That Cllr Runciman be appointed as Chair of the meeting.

16. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests, or any disclosable pecuniary interests, which they might have in the business on the agenda. No additional interests were declared.

17. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda items 4, 5, 6 and 7 (Complaints against Members of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee), on the grounds that these items contain information relating to individuals and information likely to reveal the identify of individuals. This information is classed as exempt under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

18. Complaint against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee

Members considered a complaint made in September 2017 against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee.

The complaint related to a potential breach of the Councillor Code of Conduct and the Protocol on Officer/Member relations by the said Member at a meeting at which they were in attendance.

Members considered the following options:

- To decide that no further action be taken
- To refer the matter to the Monitoring Officer for investigation,
- To consider whether some other action may be appropriate.

Having reviewed the evidence provided in relation to the complaint, including a report prepared by the Local Government Authority (LGA), and taking into account the comments of the Independent Persons, it was

Resolved: (i) That no further action be taken.

Reason: The Assessments Sub-Committee does not consider that the Code of Conduct has been breached in this case.

(ii) That the recommendations made by the Audit & Governance Committee in respect of the LGA report, at their meeting on 11 December 2017, be endorsed.

Reason: As a sensible step forward in improving the council's organisational culture

19. Complaint against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee

Members considered a complaint made in September 2017 against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee.

The complaint related to a potential breach of the Councillor Code of Conduct and the Protocol on Officer/Member relations by the said Member at a meeting at which they were in attendance.

Members considered the following options:

- To decide that no further action be taken
- To refer the matter to the Monitoring Officer for investigation,
- To consider whether some other action may be appropriate.

Having reviewed the evidence provided in relation to the complaint, including a report prepared by the Local Government Authority (LGA), and taking into account the comments of the Independent Persons, it was

Resolved: That no further action be taken.

Reason: The Assessments Sub-Committee does not consider that the Code of Conduct has been breached in this case.

20. Complaint against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee

Members considered a complaint made on 22 January 2018 against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee.

The complaint related to a potential breach of the Code of Conduct by the Member in respect of a declaration of interest.

Members considered the following options:

- To decide that no further action be taken
- To refer the matter to the Monitoring Officer for investigation,
- To consider whether some other action may be appropriate.

Having reviewed the evidence provided, and taking into consideration the views of the Independent Persons, it was

Resolved: (i) That no further action be taken.

Reason: The Assessments Sub-Committee does not consider that there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct in this case.

, (ii) That the member in question be advised to declare an interest and withdraw from the meeting should a similar situation arise in future.

Reason: To be clear that procedures have been properly complied with.

21. Complaint against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee

Members considered a complaint made on 25 January 2018 against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee.

The complaint related to a potential breach of the Code of Conduct by the Member in question at a meeting they had attended.

Members considered the following options:

- To decide that no further action be taken
- To refer the matter to the Monitoring Officer for investigation,
- To consider whether some other action may be appropriate.

Having reviewed the evidence provided, and taking into consideration the views of the Independent Persons, it was

Resolved: (i) That no further action be taken.

Reason: The Assessments Sub-Committee does not consider that there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct in this case.

(ii) That the member in question be advised to consider whether they may have received any gifts or hospitality that should be disclosed.

Reason: To ensure that the disclosure requirements have been properly complied with.

Cllr C Runciman, Chair

[The meeting started at 2.30 pm and finished at 3.45 pm].