

PART A MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

REPORT TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 21 NOVEMBER 2019

REPORT OF THE: DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

SIMON COPLEY

TITLE OF REPORT: STANDARDS COMPLAINTS OVERVIEW AND ANNUAL

REPORT

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (acting as a Corporate Governance Standards Committee) of the complaints received under the Members' Code of Conduct from April to October 2019.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Report be noted.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

3.1 To keep the Committee informed of complaints received and outcomes.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

4.1 There are no significant risks associated with reporting complaints.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

5.1 As part of its monitoring of the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (acting as a Corporate Governance Standards Committee) receives details of complaints received on an annual basis. When these were last received in April 2019, it was decided that future reports would be in November. This report therefore covers the period from April to October 2019.

REPORT

6.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 6.1 During the period April to October 2019 the Monitoring Officer received 4 complaints, two against Members of the Council and two against Parish Councillors. The table set out below provides details of the complaints and the outcome for each one.
- 6.2 All of the complaints were considered by the Monitoring Officer or Deputy Monitoring Officer in his absence, together with the Independent Person. None of the complaints were referred for investigation.

No	RDC Cllr	Parish Town Cllr	Nature of Complaint	No further action	Informal resolution
1	√		Complaint of an inaccurate press- release given by a Member about another Member's political affiliation		Dealt with within the Political Groups concerned.
2	√		Treating Officers with disrespect at a Council meeting; accusing them of sometimes putting undue pressure on Members in their decision making.		Raised with relevant Group Leader
3		√	Being disrespectful, bullying, and intimidating at a Parish Council meeting, in not allowing a public speaker to exceed the 3 minute rule and rudely interrupting.	Found to be no breach of the Code	
4		✓	As above at a separate meeting at the same Parish Council.	As above	

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
 - a) Financial
 There are no significant financial implications.
 - b) Legal There are no significant legal implications.
 - C) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental and Climate Change, Crime & Disorder)
 There are no significant other implications.

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Background Papers:

The Members' Code of Conduct.

Background Papers are available for inspection at:

www.ryedale.gov.uk