



Report for:	Standards Committee 15 th June 2015	Item number	
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Title:	Code of Conduct for Members – Complaints 2014-15 Monitoring Report
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Report authorised by :	Bernie Ryan, Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer
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Lead Officer:	Bernie Ryan, Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer
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Ward(s) affected: N/A	Report for N/A
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

This report sets out summary information about complaints received by the Monitoring Officer that a Member has breached the Member's Code of Conduct. The report relates to complaints received during 2014-15.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

1.1 Not applicable.

3. Recommendations

2.1 That Members note the report.

4. Alternative options considered

N/A

5. Background information

5.1 The Standards Committee is responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct, including monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct.



5.2 In 2014-15 the Monitoring Officer received 10 complaints that a member had breached the Code. In one case the complainant complained about the behaviour of 3 councillors arising from the same set of facts (behaviour at a council and cabinet meeting) and in another complaint the complainant complained about the behaviour of 2 councillors arising out of the same set of facts (behaviour at a meeting).

5.3 Of the 10 complaints 8 were rejected by the Assessment sub-committee and no further action was taken. 2 were referred for investigation.

5.4 Of those referred for investigation: in one case the independent investigation report found no breach of the Code and the recommendation was accepted by the Standards Committee and the complaint dismissed. In the other case, the investigation is yet to be completed and the recommendations are expected shortly for consideration by the Standards Committee.

5.5 Where appropriate, any lessons learned from complaints are considered by the Standards Committee and/or the Monitoring Officer and any improvements that might assist members are implemented. As a result the chair of the Standards Committee sent a general note to all councillors in May 2015 about the importance of members behaving properly at meetings and the public perceptions that may arise from certain behaviours.

6. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer and financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

7. Assistant Director of Corporate Governance comments and Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

N/A

9. Head of Procurement Comments

N/A

10. Policy Implications

N/A

11. Reason for Decision



Haringey Council

11.1 The Standards Committee supports the Council in discharging its duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members. It is good practice to periodically review complaints and consider any lessons that may be learned.

12. Use of Appendices

N/A

13. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A