

GROUP LEADER'S REPORT TO STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Promoting Compliance with the Code of Conduct

Report by: Councillor Adrian Robson

Group Leader

<i>TO BE COMPLETED BY MONITORING OFFICER'S STAFF</i>			
Political Group:	Conservative		
No. of members:	11		
Reporting period:	09.05.22 – 31.03.23		
<u>NUMBER, SOURCE AND LEVEL OF COMPLAINTS</u>			
	Informal Resolution	Local Resolution Hearing	PSOW
Public	0	0	1*
Officers	0	0	0
Councillors	0	0	0
<u>TRAINING RECORDS</u>			
Code of Conduct	Number of Councillors trained:	100%	
Group members' Training Records attached?	Yes		

* Ombudsman decided not to investigate

STEPS TAKEN TO PROMOTE COMPLIANCE

(TO BE COMPLETED BY GROUP LEADER / DEPUTY GROUP LEADER)

How many complaints have been raised with you about the conduct (including unacceptable behaviour) of members of your group?

Please give a brief ANONYMISED description of these complaints, including the source, subject matter and action you have taken in relation to these complaints. (Please continue on a separate sheet, if necessary.)

REPORTED TO YOU BY: - Monitoring Officer; - Group Member; - Member of another Group; - Staff member; - Member of the Public; - Other (please specify)	SUBJECT MATTER OF COMPLAINT	ACTION TAKEN	OUTCOME Resolved / Ongoing
Senior Officer	Failing to treat senior officer with respect in their comments made in public.	Spoke with Member who apologised in public to the officer concerned.	Resolved

PLEASE CONFIRM THE STEPS YOU'VE TAKEN TO:

- (I) PROMOTE AND MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARDS OF CONDUCT BY MEMBERS OF YOUR GROUP; AND
- (II) CO-OPERATE WITH THE STANDARDS & ETHICS COMMITTEE IN THE DISCHARGE OF ITS FUNCTIONS:

	STEPS TAKEN	PLEASE TICK ANY THAT APPLY	ANY COMMENTS
1.	Demonstrating personal commitment to, and attending relevant development or training on, the Member Code of Conduct and equalities	√	1) Attended all mandatory training and some additional training/briefing sessions. 2) Group Members have been reminded of importance of attending sessions and the group expectation to attend
2.	Encouraging group members to attend relevant	√	

	development or training on the Member Code of Conduct and equalities		<p>mandatory sessions. They have also been encourage to attend non mandatory sessions and a number have.</p> <p>3) Nominees to committees have known before being appointed to them that they have to complete relevant training. More work to do for appointments committee training so that wider pool of available Councillors.</p>
3.	Asking nominees to a committee to ensure they have attended the recommended training for that committee	√	
4.	Promoting civility and respect at all times, including on social media, within group communications (including group WhatsApp's) and meetings and in formal Council meetings	√	<p>4) Civility and respect on my social media feeds is maintained at all times. Group members who are on social media are encouraged to follow suit.</p> <p>5) All group members are aware of the informal resolution procedure in the Council and know that if the Ombudsman refers a matter to the Council, it is the S&E committee which hears it.</p> <p>6) Our group strives for high standards of conduct and integrity.</p>
5.	Promoting informal resolution procedures in the council, and working with the Standards & Ethics Committee and Monitoring Officer to achieve local resolution	√	
6.	Promoting a culture within the group which supports high standards of conduct and integrity	√	
7.	Attend a meeting of the Standards & Ethics Committee if requested to discuss Code of Conduct issues	NA	
8.	Support any action taken by the Standards & Ethics Committee in relation to a Member found in breach of the Code; and work to implement any recommendations from the Committee about improving standards	NA	<p>7) NA</p> <p>8) NA</p> <p>9) I, along with other group leaders, have passed issues to our respective whips to discuss at the whips meeting. Know that can contact the other group leaders should it be needed.</p> <p>10) Not reported, but discussed concerns which have been brought to me (see first section above).</p>
9.	Work together with other group leaders, within reason, to collectively support high standards of conduct within the Council and in public life generally	√	
10.	Report any concerns about Members' behaviour which have not been remedied by informal actions, in line with the duty to report breaches of the Code of Conduct.	√	

11.	Any other steps (please outline any other steps taken)	√	11) The Group Leader, Deputy Leader, Whip and/or Deputy Whip meet during each cycle and discussion includes (when needed) group discipline, behaviour and group member security.
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HAVE ALL YOUR GROUP MEMBERS COMPLETED ALL MANDATORY TRAINING?

MANDATORY TRAINING (ALL MEMBERS)	YES / NO
Code of Conduct	Yes
Information Governance and Data Protection	Yes
Supporting Equality	No
Corporate Parenting	Yes
Safeguarding	Yes

MANDATORY TRAINING (RELEVANT MEMBERS ONLY)	
Cabinet Induction	N/A
Governance and Audit Committee Induction	Yes
Planning Committee Induction	Yes
Planning Committee for Members and Role of Committee	Yes
Public Protection Committee Induction	Yes
Licensing Committee Induction	Yes

(If NO, please tell us how many Members have not completed all mandatory training, brief reasons and any action being taken to address this)

One group member has (at the time of writing) not completed the Support Equality session, which I understand is due to work commitments. They have been advised of the importance of ensuring 100% on mandatory training, otherwise it will need to be taken further. They have informed me that they have made arrangements to complete the missing session.

PLEASE TELL US IF THERE ARE ANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES OR CONCERNS YOU WISH TO RAISE WITH THE STANDARDS & ETHICS COMMITTEE:

None, but would welcome feedback if this is the type of comment you want on the Group Leaders Report.

WOULD YOU LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ANY MATTERS INFORMALLY AND PRIVATELY WITH THE COMMITTEE? NO

WHAT, IF ANY, TRAINING HAVE YOU UNDERTAKEN TO SUPPORT THE DISCHARGE OF YOUR GROUP LEADER DUTIES IN RELATION TO STANDARDS OF CONDUCT?

None recently but attended the WLGA Leadership Academy in 2019

PLEASE TELL US IF THERE IS ANY FURTHER TRAINING YOU WOULD FIND HELPFUL TO ASSIST YOU TO DISCHARGE THESE DUTIES?

NA

Thank you!