Standards Committee 21.01.15: Complaints Update

Complaints received since 21.01.15

Case name/ number	Date complaint received	Nature of complaint	Outcome	Date completed	Lesson Learned
2015/01	22.01.15	Complaint from Councillor about alleged disrespect and shown by another Councillor at Scrutiny Meeting	Complaint dismissed as (i) no breach of Code of Conduct evidenced; (ii) matter fell within the bounds of political expression; (iii) matter handled appropriately within the Scrutiny meeting itself.	19.02.15 then 11.03.15 after Review	
2015/02	16.02.15	Complaint by member of public alleging Ward Councillors failed to deal with an issue	Complaint dismissed being trivial and misdirected. The issue concerned a national policy matter over which Ward Councillors had no control, and indeed no knowledge or involvement	11.03.15	
2015/03	06.03.15	Complaint by member of public alleging Councillor was rude about him during electioneering visit in the neighbourhood	No jurisdiction. The provisions of the Code of Conduct cannot be utilised when Councillors are undertaking "political" as opposed to "Council" business.	10.03.15	

2015/04	14.06.15	Complaint by member of the public alleging Ward councillor had failed to represent him on local planning matter	Complaint dismissed. No evidence that the Ward Councillor had ever agreed to represent the views of the complainant, nor indeed had ever been asked to do so directly. By contrast it was always clear that the Ward member actively supported the scheme which the complainant opposed.	23.06.15	
2015/05	14.06.15	Complaint by member of the public that an elected Member had made defamatory remarks in the course of correspondence	Complaint dismissed as dealt with fully by exchange of separate correspondence (outside of the Code of Conduct), which the complainant had previously acknowledged.	23.06.15	
2015/06	21.07.15	Complaint by member of public that Ward Councillor was using her elected status to intimidate and bully residents/staff over a personal issue	Complaint timed-out as complainant failed to provide further details as requested by the M.O. before deadline of mid-August (or indeed since)	15.08.15	

^{*}KA to verbally mention two further complaints that have not been logged yet, and the reasons for this