

ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

26 March 2024

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A meeting of the Assessment Sub-Committee was held on 26 March 2024.

PRESENT

Mr Monson (Chair and Independent Member)
Councillors Berry and Morgan.

Mr Manship (Independent Person)

OFFICIALS

S James and A Nixon.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following items contained exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

DISCLOSURE/CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

The Monitoring Officer circulated the Governance Committee Local Assessment/Conflicts of Interest Guidance for Members and Officers. The Sub-Committee considered the guidance and agreed that, in relation to the complaint, there were no conflict of interests of the Members or Officers in attendance - **NOTED**.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS.

For the Sub-Committee's information, the Monitoring Officer circulated a copy of the arrangements for dealing with complaints about the Code of Conduct for Members: - **NOTED**.

REPORT INTO ALLEGATIONS OF BREACH OF THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - REF: GC27/2023

The Sub-Committee were reminded that at its meeting on 12 December 2023 a report concerning allegations of breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct against a Town Councillor was considered.

The complaint alleged that the Subject Member had acted against the Code of Conduct by not treating people with respect and bringing the Town Council into disrepute. The Sub-Committee agreed that further information was required and an Investigating Officer was appointed to investigate and compile a report for this Sub-Committee.

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A copy of the Investigating Officers report was presented to the Sub-Committee who discussed it in detail and took into account the views of the Independent Person.

RESOLVED that in accordance with Sections 28(6)(a) and 28(6)(b) of the Localism Act 2011, the Assessment Sub-Committee of the Governance Committee unanimously agreed that:

- (1) in relation to Case Ref: GC/27/2023 the Sub-Committee decided upon - **OTHER ACTION** - to refer the matter back to the Monitoring Officer to offer to discuss the provisions of the Code of Conduct relating to respect and how these translate into practical day to day examples. The Panel also recommends that the Subject Member should be offered additional training in relation to the Code of Conduct.