

<b>Committee :</b>	<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>10 July 2017</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Allegations against members</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Monitoring Officer</b>
<b>Action:</b>	<b>For Information</b>

## **1. Background**

The purpose of this report is to present information to the Committee regarding formal complaints made against members. The report is based on information received from the Ombudsman and the case references are his.

## **2. Complaint**

### **2.1 Case 12494/201607109**

Date Received: **01/03/17**

#### **Complaint**

That a community councillor had brought his position or the authority into disrepute and had used his position improperly whilst serving on a local committee.

#### **Decision**

No investigation. The member served on the committee in a personal and private capacity and not as an elected councillor.

### **2.2 Case 20160341713317/201607353 & 20160341713317/201607357**

Date Received: 08/03/17

#### **Complaint**

Complaints against a councillor on the basis of failure to show respect to others, bullying behaviour and bringing the office or the authority into disrepute.

#### **Decision**

Ombudsman investigating

### **2.3 Case 7294/201607052**

Date Received: 23/02/17

#### **Complaint**

Complaint against a councillor on the basis of using her position improperly, failure to declare an interest and bringing the office or authority into disrepute.

#### **Decision**

Ombudmsan investigating

### **2.4 Case 201700548**

Date Received: 28/04/17

#### **Complaint**

That a councillor had made comments on his Facebook page that were defamatory and brought his office and authority into disrepute,

#### **Decision**

No investigation. It was unclear whether the comments were wholly public and if he had made them as an elected member. The Ombudsman however intended to write to the member to remind him that the provisions of paragraph 6(1)(a) (disrepute) applied at all times and in any capacity. An allegation of libel was a legal matter that should be resolved through the courts.

### **2.5 Case 13891/201700942-945**

Date Received: 05/17

#### **Complaint**

Complaints against four community councillors in connection with non-declaration of interests.

#### **Decision**

No investigation in two cases. Considering whether to investigate in the

other two.

### **3. Recommendation**

The Committee is asked to note the information.