

Committee :	STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Date:	5 October 2015
Title	Allegations against members
Author:	Monitoring Officer
Action:	For Information

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. Complaints

2.1 Case No. 4654/201502178

Date received: 10/07/15

Complaint

A complaint against a county councillor by a member of the public that he had mounted a local campaign in relation to a particular issue and had misled council officers in relation to local circumstances.

Decision

No investigation – the complainant had not provided sufficient evidence to substantiate the complaint.

2.2 Case No. 9367/201503011, 201503014, 201503020, 201503025

Date received: 26/08/15

Complaint

Complaints by four individuals arising from the same incident. Complaints that a county councillor had made serious and false allegations about individuals who had been taking part in a protest.

Decision

No investigation – the member had the right to freedom of expression and that right was enhanced when the comments made are political in nature. As an elected member he was entitled to the freedom to share his political views

relating to the event in question.

2.3 Case No. 201503255

Date received: 02/09/15

Complaint

Complaint following a telephone conversation between the complainant and a community councillor.

Decision

Considering whether to investigate

3. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the information.