

STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE HEARING PROCEDURE

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Procedure</u>
1	<p data-bbox="788 454 911 488" style="text-align: center;"><u>Quorum</u></p> <p data-bbox="336 528 1321 595">1.1. Three Members must be present throughout the hearing to form a quorum.</p> <p data-bbox="336 636 1310 741">1.2. Where the complaint refers to a Parish Councillor a non voting Parish member of the Standards committee may be present</p> <p data-bbox="336 781 1262 853">1.3. The Sub-Committee shall nominate a Chairman for the meeting</p>
2	<p data-bbox="783 969 916 1003" style="text-align: center;"><u>Opening</u></p> <p data-bbox="347 1043 1331 1149">2.1 The Chairman explains the procedure for the hearing and reminds all parties to turn off mobile phones, audible alarms and pagers etc.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1189 1262 1223">2.2 The Chairman asks all present to introduce themselves</p> <p data-bbox="347 1263 1267 1335">2.3 The Councillor will be asked whether they wish to briefly outline their position</p>
3	<p data-bbox="738 1411 963 1444" style="text-align: center;"><u>The Complaint</u></p> <p data-bbox="347 1485 1350 1697">3.1 The Investigating Officer shall be invited to present their report including any documentary evidence or other material (and to call witnesses as required by the Investigating Officer). This report and documentary evidence must be based on the complaint made to the Council – no new points will be allowed.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1738 1350 1951">3.2 The Councillor against whom the complaint has been made (or their representative) may question the Investigating Officer upon the content of their report and any witnesses called by the Investigating Officer. (This is the Councillor's opportunity to ask questions rising from the Investigators report and not to make a statement)</p> <p data-bbox="347 1991 1174 2024">3.3 Members of the Sub-Committee may question the</p>

	Investigating Officer upon the content of their report and/or any witnesses called by the Investigating Officer
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Councillor's case</u></p> <p>4.1 The Councillor against whom the complaint has been made (or their representative) may present their case (and call any witnesses as required by the Councillor or their representative)</p> <p>4.2 The Investigating Officer may question the Councillor and/or any witnesses</p> <p>4.3 Members of the Sub-Committee may question the Member and/or any witnesses</p>
5	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summing Up</u></p> <p>5.1 The Investigating Officer may sum up the Complaint</p> <p>5.2 The Member (or their representative) may sum up their case.</p>
6	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Decision</u></p> <p>6.1 Members of the Sub-Committee will deliberate in private to consider the complaint in consultation with the Independent Person prior to reaching a decision</p> <p>6.2 Upon the Sub-Committee's return the Chairman will announce the Sub-Committee's decision in the following terms:-</p> <p>6.2.1 The Sub-Committee decides that the Member has failed to follow the Code of Conduct or</p> <p>6.2.2 The Sub-Committee decides that the Member has not failed to follow the Code of Conduct</p> <p>6.2.3 The Sub-Committee will give reasons for their decision</p> <p>6.3 If the Sub-Committee decides that the Member has failed to follow the Code of Conduct the Panel will consider any representations from the Investigator and/or the Member as to:</p> <p>6.3.1 Whether any action should be taken and</p> <p>6.3.2 What form any action should take</p> <p>6.4 The Sub-Committee will then deliberate in private to consider</p>

	<p>what action if any should be taken in consultation with the Independent Person</p>
6.5	<p>On the Sub-Committee's return the Chairman will announce the Sub-Committee's decision (in relation to a Parish Councillor a recommendation to the Parish Council)</p>
6.6	<p>The Sub-Committee will consider whether it should make any recommendations to the Council or in relation to a Parish Councillor to the Parish Council with a view to promoting high standards of conduct among Members</p>
6.7	<p>The Chairman will confirm that a full written decision shall be issued within 7 working days following the hearing and that the Sub-Committee's findings to be published.</p>