

To Members of the Grievance & Standards Committee

Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore (Chairman)
Cllr. Lee Breckon (Vice- Chairman)

Cllr. Nick Brown

Cllr. Mike Shirley

Cllr. Paul Hartshorn (Cllr. Luke
Cousin substitute Member)

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **GRIEVANCE & STANDARDS COMMITTEE** will be held in the Brooks Room - Council Offices, Narborough on **WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2025** at **5.30 p.m.** for the transaction of the following business and your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully



Gemma Dennis
Corporate Services Group Manager

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Disclosures of interest from Members

To receive disclosures of interests from Members (i.e. the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda)
3. Report of Complaint 202425-32 (Pages 3 - 6)

To consider the report of the Corporate Services Group Manager and Monitoring Officer (enclosed).



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Blaby District Council

Grievance & Standards Committee

Date of Meeting 19 November 2025
Title of Report **Hearing of complaint 202425-32**
Report Author Corporate Services Group Manager & Monitoring Officer

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the Investigating Officer's Report into a complaint regarding the conduct of the Subject Member.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To consider the evidence put forward in the Investigating Officer's Report attached at Appendix A regarding the complaint set out in paragraph 10 of the Report;
- 2.2 To decide whether to accept the conclusions of the Report set out in paragraphs 152, 166, 176, 181 of the Report; and
- 2.3 Subject to the decision in respect of 2.2 above, to consider what sanction/s should be recommended to Sapote Parish Council in response to the complaint

3. Reason for Decision(s) Recommended

- 3.1 To enable the committee to conclude the investigation

4. Matters to consider

4.1 Background

A complaint as made relating to the conduct of the Subject Member on the 7th December 2024 by the Complainant. The complaint related to the behaviour of the Subject Member both during, and after a meeting of Sapote Parish Council on the 5th December 2024. The nature of the complaint is summarised within the Report set out at Appendix A.

The complaint has been dealt with in accordance with the Council's adopted Code of Conduct for Members and the Complaints process which are attached as Appendices B and C respectively. The fact-finding process and subsequent investigation were delegated to Ms Verina Wenham, the Investigating Officer. Her final report was received on 10th September 2025.

Witnesses have been called by the Investigating Officer. The Subject Member has advised that he will not be in attendance at the Hearing, but has provided the Monitoring Officer with a statement to read out on his behalf. Whilst the Subject Member initially advised he would be calling witnesses, it has not been possible at the time of writing to confirm whether or not he has asked the witnesses to attend even though he himself will not be present.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

The Monitoring Officer sought the views of the Independent Person which were received on 9th January 2025. The Independent Person will be in attendance at the Hearing.

4.4 Significant Issues

Following the introduction of the Localism Act 2011, the Council adopted a revised Code of Conduct and arrangements for dealing with complaints regarding potential breaches.

In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 the Committee can determine whether the Code has been breached and if so the action to be taken. However, members will note that the sanctions available if it were determined that there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct are limited to censure or appropriate training.

4.5 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities and there are no areas of concern.

5. Environmental impact

5.1 No Net Zero and Climate Impact Assessment (NZCIA) is required for this report.

6. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

6.1 Budget has been identified to cover the cost of the investigation by the external Investigating Officer.

9. Appendix

9.1 Appendix A – Investigating Officer’s Report (To follow)

9.2 Appendix B – Code of Conduct for Members (To Follow)

9.3 Appendix C – Complaints Procedure (To Follow)

10. Background paper(s)

10.1 [Localism Act 2011](#)

11. Report author's contact details

Gemma Dennis

Corporate Services Group Manager &
Monitoring Officer

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