
LOCAL INVESTIGATIONS AND DETERMINATIONS – ANNUAL SUMMARY

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides notes of Sub-Committee meetings that have taken place since the last Standards Committee meeting as well as the annual summary of hearings dealt with in the 2009/10 Municipal Year.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 A report to the Standards Committee on 1 October 2009 provided a summary of the complaints dealt with since full responsibility for local investigation and determination was transferred to the Standards Committee. At that meeting it was proposed that an annual summary be provided at the last meeting of the Standards Committee in each Municipal Year.
- 2.2 It was also proposed that a copy of the note of any Sub-Committee meeting be included on the agenda of the following Standards Committee.

3 ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATES

- 3.1 Three complaints have been received since the last Standards Committee meeting.
- 3.2 Notes of the Assessment Sub-Committee meetings for cases RDC4, RDC5 and RDC6 are attached at Appendix 1.

4 ANNUAL SUMMARY OF LOCAL INVESTIGATIONS AND DETERMINATIONS

- 4.1 A summary of all complaints dealt with in the 2009/10 Municipal Year are attached at Appendix 2.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (1) To receive Assessment Sub-Committee meeting updates.
 - (2) To receive the Annual Summary of Local Investigations and Determinations for the 2009/10 municipal year.

John Honey

Corporate Director (Internal Services)

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APPENDIX 1**STANDARDS COMMITTEE – ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL****Assessment Sub-Committee – 20 January 2010**

Summary of Assessment Sub-Committee held at 15:00 on 20 January 2010 in Room 4, Civic Suite, Rayleigh, when there were present:

MEMBERS

Mr S Shadbolt	-	Independent Co-opted Member (Chairman)
Cllr M Steptoe	-	Rochford District Council Elected Member
Cllr P Beckers	-	Parish Representative
Cllr Mrs H Glynn	-	Rochford District Council Elected Member

OFFICERS

Mr A Bugeja	-	Head of Legal Services
Mrs D Britnell	-	P.A. to Corporate Director (Internal Services)

Complaint No. RDC4

Under its Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules, the Assessment Sub-Committee verified validity of the complaint under review.

The information available concerning a potential breach of the Code of Conduct was considered and it was agreed that no action should be taken on the allegation

Signed

Date ...22.1.10.....

Mr S Shadbolt
Chairman of the Assessment Sub-Committee
Standards Committee
Rochford District Council

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE – ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**Assessment Sub-Committee – 16th March 2010**

Summary of Assessment Sub-Committee held at 14.30 on 16th March 2010 in Room 1, Civic Suite, Rayleigh, when there were present:

MEMBERS

Mr M Drage	-	Independent Co-opted Member (Chairman)
Cllr C Black	-	Rochford District Council Elected Member
Cllr Mrs D Constable	-	Parish Representative
Cllr Mrs H Glynn	-	Rochford District Council Elected Member

OFFICERS

Mr A Bugeja	-	Head of Legal, Estates & Member Services
Mrs D Britnell	-	PA to Corporate Director (Internal Services)
Mrs K Lindfield	-	PA to Head of Legal, Estates & Member Services

Complaint No. RDC5

Under its Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules, the Assessment Sub-Committee verified validity of the complaint under review.

The information available concerning a possible breach of the Code of Conduct was considered and it was agreed that no action should be taken on the allegation.

Signed

Date

Mr M Drage
Chairman of the Assessment Sub-Committee
Standards Committee
Rochford District Council

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE – ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**Assessment Sub-Committee – 16th March 2010**

Summary of Assessment Sub-Committee held at 14.30 on 16th March 2010 in Room 1, Civic Suite, Rayleigh, when there were present:

MEMBERS

Mr M Drage	-	Independent Co-opted Member (Chairman)
Cllr C Black	-	Rochford District Council Elected Member
Cllr Mrs D Constable	-	Parish Representative
Cllr Mrs H Glynn	-	Rochford District Council Elected Member

OFFICERS

Mr A Bugeja	-	Head of Legal, Estates & Member Services
Mrs D Britnell	-	PA to Corporate Director (Internal Services)
Mrs K Lindfield	-	PA to Head of Legal, Estates & Member Services

Complaint No. RDC6

Under its Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules, the Assessment Sub-Committee verified validity of the complaint under review.

On the basis of the information available concerning a possible breach of the Code of Conduct for Members it was agreed that the complaint disclosed an apparent breach of the Code which merited investigation.

Resolved

That the matter be referred to the Monitoring Officer for investigation and report back to the Assessment Sub-Committee for a decision on the course of action, if any to be taken.

Signed

Date

Mr M Drage
Chairman of the Assessment Sub-Committee
Standards Committee
Rochford District Council

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APPENDIX 2

ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
LOCAL INVESTIGATIONS / DETERMINATIONS

May 2009 – to – March 2010

Case No.	Date Received	Complaint against District or Parish Councillor	Relevant Section(s) of the Code of Conduct	Date of Assessment Sub-Committee Meeting	Decision of Assessment Sub Committee	Date of Monitoring Officer's Report to Assessment Sub Committee	Decision	Review Requested
RDC 2	6 November 2009	Parish	Bringing office into disrepute / using position as a member to improperly confer or secure advantage/disadvantage	8 December 2008	No action to be taken	N/A	N/A	No
RDC 3	13 July 2009	District	<u>Para 2(1)</u> You must comply with the code whenever you: (a) conduct the business of your authority (which in this code includes the business of the office to which you are elected or appointed); or (b) act, claim to act or give the impression you are	29 July 2009	No further action	N/A	N/A	No

			<p>acting as a representative of your Authority, and reference to your official capacity are construed accordingly.</p> <p><u>Para 2(2)</u> Subject to sub-paragraphs (3) and (4), this code does not have effect in relation to your conduct other than where it is in your official capacity.</p> <p><u>Para 3(1)</u> You must treat others with respect.</p> <p><u>Para 5</u> You must not conduct yourself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your office or Authority into disrepute.</p>					
RDC 4	4 January 2010	District (2)	<p><u>Para 6(a)</u> You must no use or attempt to use your position as a Member improperly to confer on or secure for yourself or any other</p>	20 January 2010	No further action	N/A	N/A	No

			<p>person, an advantage or disadvantage.</p> <p><u>Para 12</u> (1)where you have a prejudicial interest in any business of your Authority:- (c) you must not seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.</p> <p><u>Para 5</u> You must not conduct yourself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your office or Authority into disrepute.</p>					
RDC 5	2 March 2010	Parish	<p><u>Para 3(1)</u> You must treat others with respect.</p> <p><u>Para 5</u> You must not conduct yourself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your Office or Authority into disrepute</p>	16 March 2010	No action to be taken.	N/A	N/A	
RDC 6	10 March	Parish	<u>Para 3(1)</u>	16 March	Referred to	TBA	TBA	

	2010		<p>You must treat others with respect.</p> <p><u>Para 5</u> You must not conduct yourself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your Office or Authority into disrepute.</p>	2010	Monitoring Officer for investigation			
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