

	<p>Constitution and General Purposes Committee</p> <p>22 October 2018</p>
Title	Code of Conduct Allegations 2017/18
Report of	Monitoring Officer
Wards	N/A
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A – Code of Conduct Allegations – 2017/18
Officer Contact Details	Andrew Charlwood, andrew.charlwood@barnet.gov.uk , 020 8359 2014

Summary

This report updates the Constitution and General Purposes Committee on complaints the Monitoring Officer has received about Member conduct during 2017/18

Recommendation

That the Committee note the update as set out in Appendix A

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The Members Code of Conduct requires that the Monitoring Officer submits a report to inform the Committee at annual intervals to inform the Committee about complaints which have been received and not investigated and complaints which have been investigated.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To comply with the constitutional requirement to report to the Committee.
- 2.2 To ensure that the Committee discharges its duty to: promote and maintain high standards of conduct for Members; review the application of the Code of Conduct for Members to Member complaints; and maintain an overview on ethical standards in general across the authority.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Not applicable

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 Barnet Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 There are no resources implications in the context of this report.

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 Not applicable

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Members Code of Conduct – Procedure for dealing with Complaints, Section 7, Reports – states “The Monitoring Officer will submit a report to the Constitution and General Purposes Committee at annual intervals to inform the Committee about complaints which have been received during the year.”
- 5.4.2 Article 7, Terms of Reference of Committees, Sub-Committees and Partnership Boards – the terms of reference of the Constitution and General Purposes

Committee includes “To consider and make recommendations to the Council on: (i) how it can satisfy the continuing duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct for Members; (ii) on the Code of Conduct for Members; and (iii) on ethical standards in general across the authority.”

5.4.3 The Council’s arrangements under which complaints about Member conduct are investigated and decided comply with the relevant provisions of the Localism Act 2011.

5.5 **Risk Management**

5.5.1 Failure to deal with Member complaints in accordance with the provisions of the Members Code of Conduct could have reputational implications for the Council.

5.6 **Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 Not applicable

5.7 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.7.1 Not applicable

5.8 **Insight**

5.8.1 Not applicable.

6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 None.