

	<p>Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee</p> <p>16 March 2017</p>
Title	Code of Conduct Allegations 2016/17
Report of	Monitoring Officer
Wards	N/A
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A – Code of Conduct Allegations – 2016/17
Officer Contact Details	Andrew Charlwood, andrew.charlwood@barnet.gov.uk , 020 8359 2014

Summary
This report updates the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee on complaints the Monitoring Officer has received about Member conduct during 2016/17

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 the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee at six monthly intervals to inform the Committee about complaints which have been received and not investigated and complaints which have been investigated, but not reported to the Standards Committee

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 N/A.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 N/A.

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 N/A

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Members Code of Conduct, Section 12, Reports – states “The Monitoring Officer will submit a report to the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee at six monthly intervals to inform the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee about complaints which have been received and not investigated under paragraphs 5.3 or 5.6 of this Protocol, and complaints which have been investigated but not reported to the Standards Committee under paragraph 7.1.”
- 5.4.2 Responsibility for Functions, Annex A, Terms of Reference of Committees, Sub-Committees and Partnership Boards – the terms of reference of the Constitution Ethics and Probity 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 N/A

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 N/A

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 N/A

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None.