



## **CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE – 13 JULY 2026**

### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER AND MONITORING OFFICER**

### **UPDATE ON THE OPERATION OF THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS PROCESS**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct complaints process, including complaints received and progressed since the last annual report on the operation of the process presented to the Corporate Governance Committee in November 2025.
2. In light of the significant increase in the number of complaints received over the past year, and the operational impact of managing those complaints, it is considered appropriate to provide more frequent update reports to the new Constitution and Ethics Committee, as a standing item on its agendas. This oversight will enable the Committee to satisfy itself that the standards framework is operating fairly, transparently and effectively, and to consider any learning or procedural improvements, without becoming involved in the merits of individual complaints.
3. This report provides an anonymised summary of complaints, save where the Council's complaints arrangements permit publication of further detail. The current complaints procedure states: *"Where a complaint has been informally resolved by agreement without the need for a formal investigation....the identity of the member who is the subject of the complaint and a summary of the complaint will be reported to the Corporate Governance Committee (now Constitution and Ethics Committee) as part of the Monitoring Officer's annual report regarding member conduct. It is considered to be in the public interest that these details are made public where there is an acknowledgement of fault on behalf of the relevant councillor."*
4. Greater detail is therefore included where a matter has been resolved informally by way of an apology or training, or where an apology was requested by the Member Conduct Panel as "other action". The report also outlines the complaint where, following an external investigation, a Member

Conduct Panel hearing was held on 5 May 2026, and breaches of the Code were found by the Panel.

5. The report also seeks approval of amendments to the complaints procedure and approval of a revised Independent Persons Protocol.

### **Background**

6. The Members' Code of Conduct was adopted by the County Council on 1 December 2021, following the introduction of a model Code developed by the Local Government Association in response to the recommendations made by the Committee on Standards in Public Life in 2019.
7. This Committee now has responsibility for dealing with matters relating to the Code. Previously, such matters fell within the remit of the Corporate Governance Committee which, on 24 September 2012, considered and agreed the detailed arrangements for dealing with allegations against Members. Those arrangements were subsequently reviewed and updated in September 2017, again in 2021 and most recently in 2023.
8. The complaints process provides for an initial threshold assessment by the Monitoring Officer, a further assessment in consultation with an Independent Person, and referral to a Member Conduct Panel where the matter requires further consideration. Depending on the circumstances, complaints may be closed at initial threshold assessment stage, resolved informally, referred for investigation, or considered at a hearing.
9. In November 2025, an annual report was presented to the Corporate Governance Committee, which previously had oversight of the Code of Conduct complaints process. That report noted that 34 complaints had been received during the period 1 October 2024 to 1 October 2025, compared with 7 complaints in 2022/23 and 5 complaints in 2023/24. Since then, the volume of complaints has increased substantially, including multiple complaints arising from the same or similar factual circumstances.

### **Complaints Received and Progressed Since the Previous Report**

10. The complaints covered by this update include all complaints recorded from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026. During this period 87 complaints were received by the Monitoring Officer under the Members' Code of Conduct.
11. The complaints have continued to fall broadly into the following themes:
  - a) comments made by Members on social media;
  - b) emails or other written communications with members of the public, officers or other Members;
  - c) comments made during Council or committee meetings;

- d) allegations relating to respect, bullying, harassment, discrimination, impartiality, disrepute, and use of Council resources; and
  - e) complaints arising from the same or similar incidents, where multiple complainants submitted complaints about the same social media post, meeting comment or course of conduct.
12. A number of complaints did not progress beyond the initial threshold assessment stage because they did not meet the threshold for further action, including where the alleged conduct was assessed as not being undertaken in the Member's official capacity, where the conduct would not, if proven, amount to a breach of the Code, or where there was insufficient evidence to justify further action.
13. Other complaints have been resolved informally, including through apologies, advice and training. Some matters have been referred by the Member Conduct Panel for investigation. One set of linked complaints proceeded to a hearing, at which breaches of the Code were found and sanctions were imposed.

### **Summary of Outcomes**

14. The following is a broad summary of the complaints which have been processed since 1 October 2025. For completeness this includes withdrawn complaints, duplicate complaints, grouped complaints and multiple complaints arising from the same factual matrix. Each complaint is counted once by its current or final status.
15. Separately, 14 complaints were considered by the Member Conduct Panel during the period. Four linked complaints also progressed to a hearing on 5 May 2026; those figures represent process activity and are not added to the total number of complaints received during the reporting period.

| Category                                                    | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Number |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Complaints closed at initial assessment / no further action | A substantial number of complaints were closed because the initial test was not met, the matter was out of scope, the member was not acting in their official capacity, the conduct would not amount to a breach if proven, or there was insufficient evidence. | 40     |
| Complaints withdrawn or not progressed                      | A small number of complaints were withdrawn or recorded as duplicates.                                                                                                                                                                                          | 4      |
| Complaints resolved informally                              | Several complaints were resolved informally, including by way of apology, advice or training.                                                                                                                                                                   | 5      |
| Complaints currently referred for/subject to investigation  | A number of complaints are currently being externally investigated. These are summarised further below on an anonymised basis.                                                                                                                                  | 12     |

|                                                              |                                                                   |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Complaints currently being assessed                          | Complaints currently going through the initial assessment process | 26        |
| <b>Total complaints received during the reporting period</b> | Each complaint counted once by current or final status.           | <b>87</b> |

16. Many of the complaints arise from comments made by members on social media when engaging with the public or otherwise.
17. In considering such complaints, the Monitoring Officer and the Member Conduct Panel must take account of the right to freedom of expression under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights. This protects the right to hold opinions and to share information and ideas. However, the right is not absolute and may be restricted where this is lawful, necessary and proportionate, including to protect the reputation or rights of others.
18. Political speech is afforded a high level of protection, particularly where it concerns matters of public interest. However, members must still comply with the Code of Conduct, including the requirement to treat others with respect and to maintain appropriate standards of behaviour towards officers and the public.
19. In complaints involving political expression, the following questions should be considered:
  - a) Has the member failed to comply with the Code of Conduct, on the balance of probabilities?
  - b) Would a finding of breach interfere with the member's Article 10 right to freedom of expression?
  - c) If so, is that interference lawful, necessary and proportionate?
20. It should be noted that Article 10 does not protect statements which a member knows to be false, or conduct which harms the rights of others, including bullying or harassment. Members must also respect the political neutrality of officers and must not seek to influence, pressure or persuade officers to act in a party-political way or in a way which undermines their impartiality.
21. The Monitoring Officer refers complaints which have passed the initial threshold test to one of the six Independent Persons appointed by the County Council under the Localism Act 2011, so that their views can be sought and taken into account before decisions are made on how complaints should progress. Their contribution provides valuable independent input into the complaints process, and it is recommended that the Committee places on record its thanks for their diligence and commitment in undertaking this voluntary role.

### **Informal Resolution, Apologies and Training**

22. The complaints process recognises that, in appropriate cases, informal resolution may provide a proportionate means of addressing conduct issues without the need for formal investigation or hearing. This may include an apology, advice, training, mediation or other action designed to address the issue and reduce the likelihood of recurrence.
23. Informal resolution and other action have included the following examples. These include both informal resolution and other action directed by the Member Conduct Panel; in some cases, multiple complaints were dealt with through a single outcome:
  - a) November 2025 – a complaint concerning Mr Charles Whitford CC was resolved by informal resolution following consideration by the Member Conduct Panel. The complaint was made by two other councillors and concerned an email exchange relating to one of the complainant's former role as Lead Member, raising issues under the respect provisions of the Code. The Panel directed that an apology should be offered and apologies were subsequently sent by Mr Whitford CC to both complainants and copied to the Panel.
  - b) November 2025 – a complaint concerning Mr Whitford CC, made by another councillor, was resolved by informal resolution following consideration by the Member Conduct Panel. The complaint related to social media posts and replies, and raised issues under the respect and disrepute provisions of the Code. The Panel directed that an apology should be offered and an apology was made and copied to the Panel.
  - c) November 2025 – a complaint from a member of the public concerning Mr Whitford CC related to social media conduct and raised issues under the respect provisions of the Code. The matter was resolved informally after an apology was offered and accepted.
  - d) February 2026 - An apology was offered by Mr D Harrison CC in relation to comments made about Mr Smith CC during the Leader's Position Statement at the December Council meeting. The complaint concerned allegations of failing to treat others with respect, bullying and disrepute. In his apology Mr Harrison accepted that using the Leader's Position Statement to raise matters about an individual member was inappropriate, recognised that it was not the proper forum, and apologised for raising the issues in that setting. Mr Smith CC did not consider the apology to be adequate and considered that a public apology in the same forum would have been more appropriate. However, following consideration with the Independent Person, the Monitoring Officer concluded that the apology was a reasonable and

proportionate outcome and could be treated as informal resolution of the complaint. It was also considered inappropriate for the matter to be raised again at Full Council, given that the substance of the complaint concerned the use of that forum to raise matters about an individual member. Mr Smith CC was advised that the inclusion of the apology in this public report will also place the apology into the public domain and provide public transparency about the outcome of the complaint.

- e) March 2026 – Mr Robinson CC provided a public apology in relation to a complaint made by the Council’s former Monitoring Officer, which raised issues of respect and bullying. This was published on the Member Conduct Panel’s website for a period of 3 months. In the apology, he acknowledged that his comments were inappropriate, expressed regret for the hurt and distress caused, and accepted the Panel’s recommendations that he undertake training on the Members’ Code of Conduct and the Member/Officer Protocol. The apology was subsequently published on the Council’s website as part of the informal resolution of the complaint. Training on the Code of Conduct was also completed.
  - f) May 2026 – Mr Squires CC provided a public apology in relation to two complaints concerning a social media post which included an identifiable member of staff. Mr Squires accepted that, although his intention was to comment on a matter of public policy, the post was inappropriate in context and could reasonably have been perceived as criticism of the individual officer. He apologised to the member of staff and the complainants, confirmed that he removed the post when asked, and stated that he had reflected on the Code of Conduct, completed relevant training, and would ensure that this did not happen again. The apology is posted on the Member Conduct Panel’s website.
24. These matters demonstrate the value of retaining flexibility within the complaints process. In appropriate cases, apologies, advice, training or other informal action can provide a timely, proportionate and constructive outcome. However, informal resolution depends on the willingness of the relevant Member to engage with the process and complete the agreed action. Where that does not occur, escalation may be required.

### **Member Conduct Panel Hearing and Findings**

25. Four linked complaints concerning Mr Whitford CC related to email correspondence between him and a number of residents. The complaints were recorded as engaging allegations of respect, bullying/intimidation, equalities, disrepute and impartiality. The matters proceeded to a hearing on 5 May 2026. The Member Conduct Panel found multiple breaches of the Code and imposed sanctions.

26. A formal letter from the Monitoring Officer was sent to Mr Whitford CC and posted on the Member Conduct Panel's website. A formal apology from Mr Whitford CC was also read out at Full Council on 13 May. In the apology, Mr Whitford accepted the findings of the investigation report and the Panel's decision that he had breached the Code of Conduct on a number of counts. He acknowledged that his behaviour had fallen well short of the standards expected of members, apologised to members of the community and anyone hurt or offended by his comments and behaviour, and recognised the distress caused. He also committed to ensuring that his future communications reflect the responsibilities of his office and to taking steps to rebuild trust.
27. This case is notable because it demonstrates that, while many complaints are capable of being closed at initial assessment stage or resolved informally, the process is able to progress appropriate cases to a formal hearing where the alleged conduct is sufficiently serious and where the evidence supports that course.

### **Complaints Currently Subject to External Investigation**

28. A number of complaints have been referred, or are in the process of being referred, for external investigation. These are summarised below on an anonymised basis, in accordance with the approach taken in the complaints process.
29. One matter concerns a social media post and was initially considered by the Member Conduct Panel on 12 February 2026. The Panel considered that the matter should, in the first instance, be addressed by way of informal resolution through a public apology. The apology was not given and the Monitoring Officer referred the matter for investigation. A draft report has been issued to all relevant parties and a final report is awaited.
30. A group of complaints against one member concerned social media posts. The complaints were received from members of the public and local authority employees during November 2025. The allegations include respect, bullying, equality issues, impartiality and disrepute. The Member Conduct Panel considered the matters on 20 May 2026 and referred them for external investigation, which is underway.
31. A further matter concerns a social media posting by a member about an officer in relation to a meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee. The allegations include respect and impartiality. The Member Conduct Panel considered the matter on 29 January 2026 and referred it for investigation. A draft report has been issued to all relevant parties, and a final report is awaited.

### **Review of the Council's processes and procedures**

32. The Council's current procedure is consistent with the principles and approach set out in national good practice guidance. It provides a clear local framework for receipt, assessment, informal resolution, investigation and determination of Code of Conduct complaints, and includes developed provisions on confidentiality, Independent Person involvement and Member Conduct Panel decision-making.
33. It has now been reviewed in light of recent operational experience and national guidance. A number of amendments are being proposed with the aim of improving clarity and transparency, set out in the Appendix attached to this report. These include adding indicative timescales, strengthening the public interest assessment criteria, expanding the informal resolution section, introducing clearer decision notice provisions, setting out support arrangements for both complainants and subject members, and adding a specific conflict of interest provision. These amendments would also help future-proof the procedure in light of the Government's proposed reforms to the local authority standards framework.
34. The proposed changes can be summarised as follows:
  - a) The procedure has been updated to emphasise fairness, proportionality, transparency, impartiality and natural justice in the handling of complaints.
  - b) The complaint submission process has been clarified, including the information complainants should provide and confirmation that the complaint form is encouraged but not mandatory.
  - c) New wording has been added on support and reasonable adjustments for complainants and subject members, while making clear that the Council will not provide legal advice or advocacy.
  - d) The confidentiality, anonymity and police referral provisions have been strengthened, including clearer consideration of fairness, data protection, privacy, public interest and potential criminal offences.
  - e) The early assessment process has been clarified by distinguishing between whether the Council can deal with the complaint and whether further action should be taken.
  - f) The public interest and proportionality test has been expanded, including clearer reference to seriousness, evidence, patterns of behaviour, impact on public confidence and freedom of expression.



- g) The informal resolution and “other action” provisions have been expanded to include apology, clarification, mediation, training, mentoring, advice, review of procedures and wider governance or relationship action.
  - h) The Member Conduct Panel may now request that an apology be made privately or publicly, including in a form suitable for publication on the Panel’s webpage where appropriate.
  - i) The role of Independent Persons has been clarified and strengthened throughout the process, including consultation at assessment, investigation and hearing stages.
  - j) New conflict of interest provisions have been added to preserve fairness and independence where issues arise involving officers, Independent Persons, investigators or Panel members.
  - k) The investigation and pre-hearing provisions have been clarified, including the scope of investigations, expected content of investigation reports and how evidence, witnesses and submissions will be managed.
  - l) The procedure now allows legal or other representation at hearings only where the Panel considers this necessary in the interests of fairness.
  - m) The publication of decision notices following formal investigation has been added, including a summary of the complaint, findings, reasons, Independent Person views and any sanction or outcome.
  - n) The procedure now includes clearer oversight and learning arrangements, including periodic reports to the Constitution & Ethics Committee on complaint volumes, themes, outcomes, training needs and recommended improvements.
35. The current complaints profile demonstrates that the process is operating across the full range of available outcomes. Complaints have been closed where the initial test was not met, resolved informally where appropriate, referred to the Member Conduct Panel, referred for investigation, and progressed to a hearing where necessary.
36. However, the increase in complaints has reinforced the importance of maintaining clear records, consistent assessment criteria and timely communication with all parties. It has also highlighted the need to ensure

Members understand both the scope of the Code and the types of conduct that may give rise to complaints.

### **Independent Persons Protocol**

37. The Independent Persons Protocol establishes the framework within which Independent Persons operate as part of the County Council's standards regime. Its central purpose is to define the role, responsibilities and working arrangements of Independent Persons appointed under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011, particularly in relation to allegations that a member or co-opted member has failed to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct. The Protocol forms a key component of the Council's local standards arrangements and is intended to be read alongside the Constitution, the Members' Code of Conduct and the Council's procedure for handling Member conduct complaints, to which it is appended.
38. The Protocol provides clarity on how Independent Persons interact with the Monitoring Officer, the Member Conduct Panel and subject members, ensuring a consistent, fair and transparent approach to complaint handling. The role of the Independent Person is consultative rather than determinative. Independent Persons do not investigate complaints and do not make decisions on complaints, but their views are sought and taken into account at key stages of the process.
39. At its core, the Protocol is designed to support the maintenance of high standards by embedding an independent and external perspective into the decision-making process. Independent Persons provide objective and impartial views on complaints, helping to support fairness, proportionality, transparency and confidence in the Council's governance arrangements.
40. The Protocol also sets out expectations regarding involvement at different stages of the complaints process, safeguards around independence and confidentiality, and the boundaries of the role, including that Independent Persons are not advocates for any party. In doing so, it strengthens procedural clarity and reduces the risk of inconsistency or perceived bias.
41. The current Protocol has been reviewed and amended, and the revised version is attached marked 'Appendix 2' in the Appendix to this report. The revised Protocol is a more developed and operationally detailed document than the version previously approved by the Corporate Governance Committee on 22 September 2023. While the earlier version established the statutory role at a high level, the revised Protocol expands significantly on how that role is applied in practice and reflects learning from recent case handling.
42. The key amendments include:

- a) More detailed procedural guidance covering each stage of the complaints process. The updated Protocol sets out more clearly when the Monitoring Officer may or must consult an Independent Person, including during initial assessment, consideration of informal resolution, investigation decisions, consideration of draft and final investigation reports, and at the hearing stage. This provides greater procedural certainty and clearer expectations about the role of the Independent Person.
  - b) Strengthened guidance on contact with subject members, including clarification that Independent Persons do not act as advisers, representatives or advocates for subject members or complainants. The revised Protocol establishes clearer channels for communication, record-keeping requirements and safeguards to preserve fairness and independence.
  - c) Greater emphasis on independence, conflicts of interest and resilience, including the practical operation of a pool of Independent Persons. This reflects the Council's appointment of a pool of six individuals, which assists in managing conflicts, availability and capacity, and strengthens the resilience of the standards arrangements.
  - d) Clearer delineation of the Independent Person's role at different stages of the Member Conduct Panel process, particularly the distinction between early assessment meetings, Panel consideration of whether a complaint should be referred for investigation or other action, and formal hearings. The revised Protocol also makes clearer that the Independent Person's views should be recorded and that, where the decision-maker departs from those views, reasons should be given. This reinforces transparency and accountability.
  - e) A broader and more operationally comprehensive role description, including reference to related functions such as statutory officer dismissal panels, training and support arrangements, confidentiality, communications, and periodic review. These additions reflect a maturing framework which captures both the statutory requirements and practical governance experience gained since the 2023 version was approved.
43. The revised Protocol is intended to support the fair and effective operation of the complaints process, provide greater clarity for Independent Persons, subject members, complainants and officers, and strengthen confidence in the Council's standards arrangements. If approved, the revised Protocol will replace the current Appendix 2 to the complaints procedure.

### **Volume of Complaints and Impact on Resources**

44. The volume of complaints has increased very significantly. The November 2025 annual report recorded 34 complaints in the period 1 October 2024 to 1 October 2025, compared with 7 complaints in 2022/23 and 5 complaints in 2023/24. The current complaints log records a further substantial volume of complaints from 1 October onwards, including multiple complaints arising during late 2025 and the first half of 2026.
45. A notable feature of the current complaints profile is that several incidents have generated multiple complaints. This has included multiple complaints about the same or similar social media posts, the same meeting comments, or the same course of conduct. Each complaint must nevertheless be logged, assessed and considered fairly. In some cases, complaints can be grouped for practical purposes but care still needs to be taken to ensure that each complainant's concerns are properly understood and that the subject Member is given sufficient information to respond.
46. The increased volume has had a significant impact on officer resource. The process requires the Monitoring Officer and supporting officers to undertake initial assessments, consider jurisdiction and capacity issues, seek and consider comments from subject Members, consult Independent Persons, set up and provide advice to Member Conduct Panels, draft correspondence, maintain records, and respond to queries from complainants, Members and Group Leaders.
47. The increased number of complaints has also placed additional demands on the Council's Independent Persons. Their role remains essential to the fairness and credibility of the process, particularly at initial assessment stage, where informal resolution is proposed, and where matters are referred to the Member Conduct Panel.
48. The use of external investigators has also increased. This has a direct financial impact, because external investigations involve professional fees and associated administrative costs. The investigations currently underway will therefore create additional pressure on the governance budget. The Committee may therefore wish to note that external investigation costs currently invoiced stand at £5,769.60, with final costs dependent on the completion of the investigations currently underway.
49. In addition to the direct financial cost, external investigations also create indirect resource pressures. These include officer time spent preparing bundles, instructing investigators, reviewing draft reports, dealing with procedural matters, arranging Panel meetings and supporting any subsequent hearing process.
50. The increase in complaints also raises wider governance issues. The Members' Code of Conduct process is designed to deal with genuine

allegations of misconduct. It is not intended to become a substitute for political disagreement or ordinary democratic debate. Equally, the fact that a complaint arises in a political context does not mean that it should automatically be dismissed. The Monitoring Officer and Member Conduct Panel must continue to apply the Code carefully, fairly and consistently, taking account of the facts of each case and the rights of all parties.

### **Freedom of Expression and Respectful Conduct**

51. The recent complaints also reinforce the continuing need to balance robust political expression with the obligations in the Code of Conduct. Political speech attracts a high level of protection under Article 10 ECHR, particularly where it concerns matters of public interest, but that protection is not unlimited. Members should remain mindful that the Code continues to apply to conduct involving bullying, harassment, discrimination, unjustified personal criticism, officer impartiality, disrepute and the use of Council resources, including when communicating through social media.

### **Future Reporting**

52. Given the significant increase in the number of complaints and the number of ongoing investigations, it is proposed that the Committee should continue to receive more frequent update reports on the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct complaints process.
53. More frequent reporting will support transparency and enable the Committee to maintain oversight of the standards framework without involving itself in the merits of individual live complaints.

### **Conclusion**

54. The Members' Code of Conduct complaints process has experienced a very substantial increase in demand. Many complaints continue to be resolved at initial assessment stage or through informal resolution, but the number of matters requiring Member Conduct Panel consideration, external investigation and hearing processes has also increased.
55. The increase in volume, complexity and sensitivity has placed significant pressure on the Monitoring Officer and the governance team and on the Independent Persons who support the process. The current position reinforces the need for proportionate, fair and consistent complaint handling, clear expectations of Member conduct, and regular reporting to the Committee.
56. The Committee is asked to note the update and the impact on resources, and to support the continuation of more frequent reporting while complaint volumes remain at the current elevated level.

## **Recommendations**

57. The Committee is asked to:

- a) note the update on the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct complaints process;
- b) note the significant increase in the number of complaints received and the resulting impact on officer, Independent Person and Member Conduct Panel resources;
- c) note the number of matters currently subject, or being referred, to external investigation and the associated resource and financial implications;
- d) approve the proposed amendments to the Members' Code of Conduct complaints procedure attached as an Appendix to this report including the strengthened provisions on complaint submission, support and reasonable adjustments, confidentiality, public interest and proportionality, informal resolution, Independent Person involvement, conflicts of interest, investigations, hearings, decision notices, public apologies and reporting arrangements;
- e) approve the revised Independent Persons Protocol attached as Appendix 2 to the Appendix to this report and agree that it replace the current Independent Persons Protocol appended to the Council's procedure for dealing with allegations of a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- f) agree that update reports on the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct complaints process should be presented more frequently while complaint volumes remain elevated;
- g) request that future update reports include information on the cost of external investigations, where available; and
- h) formally thank the Independent Persons for their ongoing commitment and assistance in supporting the fair and effective operation of the Members' Code of Conduct complaints process.

## **Background Papers**

Report to the Corporate Governance Committee on 24 September 2012 – “Arrangements for dealing with Member Conduct Complaints”.

<https://democracy.leics.gov.uk/ielistDocuments.aspx?CId=434&MId=3554&Ver=4>

Annual Report on the Operation of the Members' Code of Conduct 2024/25, Corporate Governance Committee, 24 November 2025.

<https://democracy.leics.gov.uk/ielistDocuments.aspx?CId=434&MId=7963&Ver=4>

Member Conduct Panel's website: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/councillors-and-conduct/councillor-code-of-conduct>

### **Circulation under Local Issues Alert Procedure**

None.

### **Officers to Contact**

Fiona McMillan  
Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer  
Tel: 0116 305 2024

Email: [fiona.mcmillan@leics.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.mcmillan@leics.gov.uk)

### **Appendices**

Appendix - Proposed amended procedure for dealing with allegations of a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct

This page is intentionally left blank