

Minutes of Standards Committee Assessment Panel

11 November 2021

Present:

Dylan Price
Councillor R.D. Dunn
Councillor K.M. Grant
Councillor R.W. Sider BEM

529/21 Disclosures of Interest

There were none.

530/21 Exclusion of Press and Public

The Panel considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following matter on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

The Panel in making its decision had regard to all circumstances and was satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED that in the interest of having a frank and open discussion about the matter, the press and public are excluded from the meeting.

531/21 Exempt Complaint Assessment Report against Councillor K

The panel considered the report of the deputy monitoring officer setting out an allegation by way of a complaint received from a councillor about Councillor K.

The deputy monitoring officer detailed the allegations that had been made and the key considerations for the assessment panel.

The panel went on to consider the complaint having regard to the assessment criteria.

The panel considered the options open to it:

- (a) ask the monitoring officer to direct that the complaint is investigated;
- (b) direct the monitoring officer to take other appropriate action short of a formal investigation, for instance trying to secure an apology;

- (c) take no action in respect of the complaint; this may be where the complaint appears to be trivial, vexatious, malicious, politically motivated or tit-for-tat.

The panel had regard to advice from the independent person and noted that Councillor K had not responded to the complaint.

RESOLVED that the monitoring officer be directed to investigate the complaint.