



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on July 2022

## **STANDARDS AND ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE – REFERRALS PANEL**

**22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 at 10.00am**

### **Present:**

Councillors Cairns, Dawkins and Green

### **Officers in attendance:**

- Eve Richardson-Smith (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
- Rachel Marshall (Executive Member Support Officer)

### **Also in attendance:**

- Wayne Harvie (Independent Person)

### **SREF.21 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED – That Councillor Dawkins be appointed Chair for this meeting of the referrals panel.

COUNCILLOR DAWKINS IN THE CHAIR

### **SREF.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received in respect of any item on the agenda for this meeting.

### **SREF.23 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

## **SREF.24 COMPLAINT MO/03/2022**

The panel considered the above complaint in accordance with the local standards arrangements arising from the Localism Act 2011 and as adopted by this Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

The panel were given the opportunity to ask the Deputy Monitoring Officer any questions regarding the complaint and the Independent Person's views.

The panel concurred with the view of the Deputy Monitoring Officer and Independent Person that no further action be taken. As per the stage 2 criteria, where the allegation discloses a potential breach of the Code of Conduct but it is considered that the complaint is not serious enough to warrant any further action and in all the circumstances there is no overriding public benefit or interest in carrying out an investigation, it is unlikely to refer a complaint for investigation.

It was agreed however, that Councillors need to be mindful of their tone and manner when addressing members of the public.

**RESOLVED –**

- (1) That in respect of complaint MO/03/2022 an investigation was not warranted and therefore no further action be taken as per the stage 2 criteria..
- (2) The Councillor concerned will be advised to apologise in writing to the complainants and to be mindful of how his tone and manner may be perceived when addressing members of the public.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.15 a.m.