



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 28th September 2023

STANDARDS AND ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE – REFERRALS PANEL

11th August 2023 at 1.30 pm

Present:

Councillors Brasted, Morland and K Swinburn

Officers in attendance:

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

SREF.5 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

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

COUNCILLOR SWINBURN IN THE CHAIR

SREF.6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

SREF.7 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.8 COMPLAINT MO/02/2023

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 29th 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 the complaint did not meet Stage 1 of the Assessment Criteria. The named Member was not acting in their official capacity at the time of the alleged conduct. Therefore, the complaint could not be investigated as a breach of the Council's Code of Conduct.

RESOLVED – 1. That, in respect of complaint MO/02/2023, the Stage 1 criteria was not satisfied and therefore no further action could be taken as a breach of the Council's Code of Conduct.

SREF.9 COMPLAINT MO/03/2023

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 29th 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 were satisfied that the complaint met Stage 1 of the Assessment Criteria but not Stage 2 and concurred with the view of the Deputy Monitoring Officer that no further action be taken. It was not in the public interest for the complaint to be investigated as a breach of the Council's Code of Conduct.

RECOMMENDATION – The Deputy Monitoring Officer to recommend that for any Member attending a North East Lincolnshire Council Planning Committee meeting that they declare either at the beginning of the meeting or at the start of the relevant agenda item, if that Member has had any previous involvement (including, but not limited to, attending a prior Parish Council meeting where the Planning application has been heard), for openness and transparency

RESOLVED – 1. That, in respect of complaint MO/03/2023, the stage 2 criteria was not satisfied and therefore did not warrant an investigation as being in the public interest.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 13.57 p.m.