

Appendix 2

C. Circumstances where the Standards Committee may decide to refer the allegation to the Monitoring Officer for training, conciliation or other steps as appear appropriate to the Standards Committee

Note This approach may be appropriate where the Sub-Committee believes that the conduct, if proven, may amount to a failure to comply with the Code, and that some action should be taken in response to the complaint. If this approach is taken, the purpose of the action is NOT to find out whether the subject member breached the Code, and no conclusion will have been reached on whether the subject member failed to comply with the Code. It should be noted that this approach may only be taken after consultation with the Monitoring Officer

C1 Where the complaint suggests that there is a wider problem throughout the authority, for example of a poor understanding of the Code of Conduct, or the Council's protocols or procedures, and it is appropriate to extend the action to other members who are not the subject of the complaint

C2 Where it is apparent that there is a lack of experience or training, or where the allegation if proven would not warrant any of the sanctions (apart from training) that would be available after a hearing, subject of the allegation is relatively inexperienced as a Member, or has admitted making an error and the matter would not warrant a more serious sanction

~~C3 Where it appears that even if the allegation were fully investigated, and a breach of the Code of Conduct upheld, training or conciliation would be the appropriate remedy~~

C3 Where the complaint indicates a general breakdown of relationships, including those between members and officers, as evidenced by a pattern of allegations of minor disrespect, harassment or bullying to such an extent that it is becoming difficult to conduct the business of the Council.

C4 Where there appears to have been misleading, unclear or misunderstood advice from officers.

C5 Where there are allegations and retaliatory allegations from the same members.

C6 Where there are allegations that may be symptomatic of governance problems within the Council, which are more significant than the allegations in themselves.