

## Standards Committee

### Code of Conduct complaints update 12 July 2022 to 1 November 2023

Case #	TC/PC or EDDC member	Stage 1 Assessment	Date of Assessment Sub-Committee	Relevant paragraphs in Code of Conduct it is alleged has been breached and nature of complaint	Case Progress
2022/C01 Cllr W 24.2.2022	EDDC	28.02.2022	21.04.2022	4.1 You must (a) treat others with courtesy and respect.  Comments made about the complainant in a newspaper article.	Referred for 'other action' - apology to be given - and to be returned if not agreed.  Not accepted by Cllr W and returned to ASC on 22.7.22.  ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C02 Cllr V 28.2.2022	EDDC	01.03.2022	21.04.2022	4.1 You must (a) treat others with courtesy and respect;  Comments made on social media	The Monitoring Officer to give advice to the subject member on the use of social media and to ask that the subject member reconsider offering an apology to the complainant.  The subject member did not agree to apologise.  <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C03 Cllr A 23.2.2022	P/TC	28.03.2022	22.07.2022	Not declaring disclosable pecuniary and personal interests.  4.1 You must (a) treat others with courtesy and respect  5. You <b>must not</b> (a) attempt to use your position as a Member improperly to confer on or secure for yourself or any other person, an advantage or disadvantage;	ASC decided the matter should be investigated by the MO. Investigation found that a breach had occurred and the sanction was a public apology. The Councillor did not accept the sanction and therefore the case was referred for independent investigation. Independent investigation report needs to be reviewed by the MO to progress.

				<p>(c) bully any person</p> <p>Not including on their register of interests a relevant person's employment, relevant person's contract with Council and the membership of outside bodies as personal interests. Not declaring or acting on disclosable pecuniary interest at meetings and conferring an advantage on their partner. Not treating the complainant with courtesy and respect or bullying them in relation to the challenge to their declaration of interests at a meeting.</p>	
<p>2022/C04 Cllr B 23.2.2022</p>	P/TC	28.03.2022	22.07.2022	<p>Not declaring disclosable pecuniary and personal interests.</p> <p>You <b>must</b></p> <p>(a) treat others with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>5. You <b>must not</b></p> <p>(c) bully any person</p> <p>(h) conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Not treating the complainant with courtesy and respect and bullying in relation to in relation to the challenge to their declaration of interests at a meeting. Making inappropriate comments (sexual innuendo) at a meeting. Not including on their register of interest a relevant person's employment / business, their directorship of a community</p>	<p>ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b></p>

				organisation and the leasing of Council premises.	
2022/C05 Cllr C 23.2.2022	P/TC	28.03.2022	22.07.2022	<p>Not declaring disclosable pecuniary and personal interests.</p> <p>You <b>must</b> (a) treat others with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>5. You <b>must not</b> (c) bully any person (h) conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Calling the complainant an idiot in correspondence. Their employment being incorrectly recorded in their register of interest and not registering their membership of a number of outside bodies as personal interests.</p>	ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C06 Cllr D 23.2.2022	P/TC	28.03.2022	22.07.2022	<p>Not declaring disclosable pecuniary and personal interests.</p> <p>You <b>must</b> (a) treat others with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>5. You <b>must not</b> (c) bully any person (h) conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.</p>	ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>

				Not treating the complainant with courtesy and respect and bullying in relation to the challenge to their declaration of interests at a meeting. Not including on their register of interest a relevant person's employment, their directorship of a community organisation and the leasing of Council premises, their land interests and their membership of a number of outside bodies as personal interests.	
2022/C07 Cllr E 14.3.2022	P/TC	18.03.2022	27.07.2022	4.1 (a) you must treat others with courtesy and respect.  Making of inappropriate comments about the complainant at a Council meeting.	Apology not agreed. ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C08 Cllr F 28.3.2022	P/TC	20.04.2022	27.07.2022	4.1 (a) You must treat others with courtesy and respect.  5(c) You must not bully any person.  Inappropriate comments about and behaviour towards to the complainant at a Council meeting.	Councillor resigned. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C09 Cllr G 05.04.2022	P/TC	N/A	N/A	Not confirmed	Queries raised as to the basis of the complaint and details of whether the subject member was acting as a Councillor. No response received <b>Case closed</b>
2022/C10 Cllr H 9.4.2022	P/TC	10.07.2022	27.07.2022	4.1 (a) you must treat others with courtesy and respect; and 5(f) you must not disclose information given to you in confidence by anyone, or information acquired by you which	ASC did not consider a breach to be evidenced so decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>

				<p>you believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature.</p> <p>That confidential information in relation to the complainant was revealed by the councillor. Inappropriate behaviours towards the complainant in a telephone call and a meeting. Not responding to correspondence.</p>	
2022/C11 Cllr I 11.4.2022	P/TC	10.07.2022	27.07.2022	<p>5(f) you must not disclose information given to you in confidence by anyone, or information acquired by you which you believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature.</p> <p>That confidential information in relation to the complainant was revealed by the councillor.</p>	<p>ASC did not consider a breach to be found so decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C12 Cllr J 11.04.2022	P/TC	N/A	N/A	Not confirmed	<p>Complaint received from the Council via the Clerk. Queries raised as to the ability of the Council to complain without a decision to so do. Further queries raised with regard to the basis and detail of the complaint. No response received. <b>Case closed</b></p>
2022/C13 Cllr K 04/05/2022	EDDC	27.05.2022	N/A	<p>4.1 (a) you must treat others with courtesy and respect</p> <p>Inappropriate comments made within a Council meeting</p>	<p>Complaint withdrawn. <b>Case closed</b></p>
2022/C14 Cllr L 9.5.2022	EDDC	27.05.2022	27.07.2022	<p>5.1 You must not</p> <p>(h) conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.</p>	<p>ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b></p>

				Untruthful comments / misleading Council in relation to a particular issue.	
2022/C15 Cllr M 13.5.2022	EDDC	27.05.2022	27.07.2022	4.1 You must (a) treat others with courtesy and respect.  Inappropriate and disrespectful comments made about the complainant.	ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C16					
2022/C17 Cllr O 9.6.2022	P/TC	21.06.2022	14.11. 2022	3.2 You must not (a) attempt to use your position as a Member improperly to confer on or secure for yourself or any other person, an advantage or disadvantage.  3.2 You must not (f) disclose information given to you in confidence by anyone, or information acquired by you which you believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature.  Released confidential council information (comprising two briefing papers sent only to councillors) to a person outside of the council.  Used information provided solely to councillors for their own advantage to challenge the actions of the council.	ASC decided to refer for investigation but subsequently Councillor resigned. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C18 Cllr P 18.06.2022	EDDC	N/A	N/A	Not confirmed	Complaint form did not establish that councillor was acting as a councillor or set out the basis of the breach.

					Complainant asked for further information to enable the complaint to be assessed but this was not received. <b>Case closed</b>
2022/C19 Cllr Q 24.6.22	EDDC	08.07.2022	14.11.2022	Not declaring disclosable pecuniary and personal interests.	ASC decided other action – apology at public meeting. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C20 Cllr R 12.7.2022	EDDC	26.07.2022		4. You <b>must</b> (a) treat others with courtesy and respect including fellow council members, staff and members of the public;  5. You <b>must not</b> (h) conduct yourself in a manner <u>or</u> behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.  Comments made in email	Complaint withdrawn after apology given. <b>Case closed.</b>
2022/C21 Cllr S 02.08.2022	P/TC	26.08.2022	14.11.2022	5.4 Confidentiality and access to information – as a councillor: 1. I do not disclose information: a) given to me in confidence by anyone b) acquired by me which I believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature, unless i. I have received the consent of a person authorised to give it; ii. I am required by law to do so; iii. the disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional legal advice provided that the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person iv. or the closure is:	ASC decided to refer the matter for external investigation. Councillor then resigned. <b>Case closed.</b>

				<p>a. Reasonable and in the public interest; and</p> <p>b. Made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirement of the Council; and</p> <p>Alleged disclosure of confidential information</p>	
2022/C22 Cllr T 10.08.2022	EDDC	01.09.2022	14.11.2022	<p>5.1.1 Not treating you with courtesy and respect</p> <p>5.2.1 Bullying</p> <p>5.8.1 Has intimidated / attempted to intimidate you as potential complainant.</p> <p>Inappropriate Facebook post</p>	<p>ASC decided other action and that the complainant should offer an apology. Apology given.</p> <p><b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C23 Cllr U 15.08.2022	EDDC	17.08.2022	14.11.2022	<p>6.1.1 I register and disclose my interests in accordance with Appendix B.</p> <p>Allegation of non registration and declaration of interest</p>	<p>ASC decided that there was insufficient evidence of breach and that no further action should be taken.</p> <p><b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C24 Cllr X 23.08.2022	P/TC	31.08.2022	14.11.2022	<p>5.2 Bullying, Harassment and discrimination – as a councillor</p> <p>1. I do not bully any person.</p> <p>2. I do not harass any person.</p> <p>3. I promote equalities and do not discriminate unlawfully against any person.</p> <p>4. I do not do anything which may cause the Council to breach a statutory duty or any of the equality enactments (as defined in section 33 of the Equality Act 2010).</p> <p>Allegations of inappropriate behaviour towards Council staff and Councillors</p>	<p>ASC decided to refer the matter for external investigation. Councillor then resigned.</p> <p><b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C25	EDDC	N/A	N/A	None	Referred to corporate complaints.



Cllr Y 30.09.2022					<b>Case Closed.</b>
2022/C26 Cllr Z 21.09.2022	P/TC	30.09.2022	14.11.2022	<p>4. You <b><u>must</u></b> (a) treat others with courtesy and respect including fellow council members, staff and members of the public;</p> <p>5. You <b><u>must not</u></b> (h) conduct yourself in a manner <u>or</u> behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Allegations of inappropriate behaviour towards Council staff and Councillors</p>	<p>ASC decided to refer the matter for external investigation. Councillor then resigned. <b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C27 Cllr AA 21.09.2022	P/TC	30.09.2022	14.11.2022	<p>5.4 Confidentiality and access to information – as a councillor: 3. I do not prevent anyone from getting information that they are entitled to by law. Local authorities must work openly and transparently, and their proceedings and printed materials are open to the public, except in certain legally defined circumstances.</p> <p>Allegation that failed to comply with requirements relating to access to information.</p>	<p>ASC decided to refer the matter for external investigation. Councillor then resigned. <b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C28 Cllr BB 13.10.2022	EDDC	11.11.2022	19.01.2022	<p>5.1.1 I treat other councillors and members of the public with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>5.2.1 I do not bully any person.</p> <p>5.2.2 I do not harass any person.</p>	<p>ASC decided other action and that the Councillor should apologise. For various reasons the apology has not happened and the complaint therefore now needs to be further considered.</p>

				<p>5.2.3 I promote equalities and do not discriminate unlawfully against any person.</p> <p>5.2.4 I do not do anything which may cause the Council to breach a statutory duty or any of the equality enactments (as defined in section 33 of the Equality Act 2010).</p> <p>5.5.1 I do not bring my role or Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Allegation of inappropriate comment in a Council meeting</p>	
2022/C29 Cllr CC 05.10.2022	P/TC	17.11.2022	19.01.2023	<p><b>Section 5.1.2</b> – you failed to treat a council employee with courtesy and respect and respect for their role.</p> <p><b>Section 5.5</b> - by your conduct / adverse behaviour impacting on other Councillors and the Council (including the Clerk) you have lowered the public's confidence in the Council's ability to discharge its functions.</p> <p>Allegation of inappropriate comment at a Council meeting</p>	<p>ASC decided that the case should be referred for investigation by the Monitoring Officer. Complaint was passed to an external investigator but the Councillor then resigned.</p> <p><b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C30 Cllr DD 09.10.2022	P/TC	17.11.2022	19.01.2023	<p>Failure to disclose an interest.</p>	<p>ASC required further detail which was requested however then the Councillor resigned.</p> <p><b>Case closed.</b></p>
2022/C31 Cllr EE 16.11.2022	EDDC	21.11.2022	19.01.2023	<p>5.1.2 I treat Council employees, employees and representatives of partner organisations and those volunteering for the Council with courtesy and respect and respect for the role they play.</p> <p>5.2.1 I do not bully any person</p>	<p>ASC decided other action and that an apology should be given. The Councillor wasn't minded to give an apology. The Councillor did not stand for re-election.</p> <p><b>Case closed.</b></p>

				<p>5.5.1 I do not bring my role or Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Allegation of inappropriate comment at a Council meeting</p>	
<p>2022/C32 08.12.2022 Cllr FF</p>	EDDC	22.12.2022	N/A	<p>5.1 Courtesy and Respect - as a councillor: 5.1.1 I treat other councillors and members of the public with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>5.2 Bullying, harassment and discrimination - as a councillor: 5.2.1 I do not bully any person. 5.2.3 I promote equalities and do not discriminate unlawfully against any person</p> <p>5.5 Disrepute – as a councillor: 5.5.1 I do not bring my role or Council into disrepute.</p> <p>Allegation of inappropriate allegations in emails.</p>	<p>After stage 1 the Councillor stood down for other reasons. <b>Case closed.</b></p>
<p>2023/1 24.5.2023 Cllr GG</p>	EDDC	16.06.2023	N/A	<p>5.1.1 I treat other councillors and members of the public with courtesy and respect.</p> <p>5.2.3 I promote equalities and do not discriminate unlawfully against any person.</p> <p>5.2.4 I do not do anything which may cause the Council to breach a statutory duty or any of the equality enactments (as defined in section 33 of the Equality Act 2010).</p>	<p>Other action agreed, namely an apology and training.</p>

2023/2 1.5.2023 Cllr HH	P/TC	24.07.2023	2.10.2023	4.1 You must (a) treat others with courtesy and respect.  The Councillor copied the complainant into an email about them and was rude about the complainant.	ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>
2023/3 21.07.2023 Cllr II	EDDC	19.09.2023	N/A	None set out in the complaint.	Complaint rejected at initial assessment. <b>Case closed.</b>
2023/4 3.08.2023 Cllr JJ	P/TC	17.09.2023	N/A	4.1 You must (a) treat others with courtesy and respect.  You must not (h) conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.  Councillor used a rude gesture in council meeting.	Complaint withdrawn as Councillor apologised. <b>Case closed.</b>
2023/5 24.08.2023 Cllr KK	EDDC	17.09.2023	12.10.2023	5.1 You must treat others with courtesy and respect including fellow council members, staff and members of the public.  5.2.1 I do not bully any person.  5. 4.3 I do not prevent anyone from getting information that they are entitled to by law.	ASC decided no further action. <b>Case closed.</b>

				5.6.1 I do not use, or attempt to use, my position improperly to the advantage or disadvantage of myself or anyone else.	
2023/6 12.09.2023 Cllr LL	P/TC			Failure to declare an interest in Council matter.	Complainant did not set out achievable sanctions in complaint. MO has gone back to ask what sanctions complainant would seek that can be achieved and complainant has confirmed an apology would be acceptable. Complaint now needs to proceed to stage 1.
2023/7 10.10.2023 Cllr MM	P/TC			Failure to declare DPI and  5.2.1 I do not bully any person. 5.2.2 I do not harass any person.	Complaint wasn't clear and further information was required. This has now been provided and complaint will proceed to Stage 1.
2023/8 23.10.2023 Cllr NN	EDDC			You must not (h) conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office or the Council into disrepute.	Complaint wasn't clear and further information was required. This has now been provided and complaint will proceed to Stage 1.
2023/9 11.09.2023 Cllr OO	P/TC			No clear details yet provided.	Complaint is not clear currently and does not clearly set out specific breaches of the Code. Further information is therefore being requested from the complainant.
2023/10 17.07.2023 Cllr PP	EDDC	17.09.2023	2.10.2023	3.3 In undertaking my role: I impartially exercise my responsibilities in the interests of the local community.  I do not improperly seek to confer an advantage, or disadvantage, on any person.  I avoid conflicts of interest.	ASC decided other action was appropriate, MO is in the process of agreeing that other action with the parties. If the other action is not agreed the complaint will be referred back to the ASC.

				<p>I exercise reasonable care and diligence.</p> <p>I ensure that public resources are used prudently in accordance with my Council's requirements and in the public interest.</p>	
2023/11 09.01.2023 Cllr QQ	EDDC			Complaints sets out that code has been breached.	Complainant has been asked to specify and provide detail and evidence about specific breaches. Once further information is received complaint can proceed to stage 1.