

Council Meeting	Agenda Item:
Meeting Date	26 July 2017
Report Title	Report from Standards Hearing Sub-Committee held on 19 June 2017
Cabinet Member	Cllr Andrew Bowles, Leader
SMT Lead	Donna Price, Interim Deputy Head of Legal Partnership and Monitoring Officer
Lead Officer	Donna Price, Interim Deputy Head of Legal Partnership and Monitoring Officer
Key Decision	No
Classification	Open
Forward Plan	Reference number:
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Council notes the findings of the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee. 2. That Council agree with the recommendation from the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee that Councillor Baldock is removed from the Scrutiny Committee, as a Member of Substitute Member, for a period of three months.

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 On 19 June 2017 a hearing was held by the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee relating to a Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Baldock. This report sets out their decision and asks the Council to agree to the recommendation made by the sub-committee.

2 Background

- 2.1 Following the Scrutiny Committee held on 29 November 2016 the former Chief Executive submitted a complaint to the Monitoring Officer regarding the conduct of Councillor Baldock. After consideration of the complaint the matter was referred for investigation.
- 2.2 The findings of the Investigating Officer's report were presented to the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee on 19 June 2017. The Subject Member also addressed the Panel.
- 2.3 The Standards Hearing Sub-Committee found that there was no breach of Paragraph five of the Code of Conduct, however, they found that Councillor Baldock's conduct did breach Paragraph 8 and the Principle of Leadership. The

full Decision Notice setting out the background to the complaint and the Sub-Committee's findings is attached to this report at Appendix 1.

3 Proposals

3.1 The Standards Hearing Sub-Committee proposed the following sanctions:

- That the findings of the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee be reported to Full Council for information, and
- That it be recommended to Full Council that Councillor Baldock is removed from the Scrutiny Committee, as a Member or Substitute Member, for a period of three months.

3.2 Council are asked to note the findings and agree the recommendation of the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee with regards to the removal of Councillor Baldock from Scrutiny Committee, as a Member or Substitute Member, for a period of three months.

4 Alternative Options

4.1 Council could choose not to agree with, or to amend, the recommendation of the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee. This is not advised as Council has not heard all of the facts of the case or any mitigation put forward by the subject member.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

5.1 In reaching their decision the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee consulted the Council's Independent Person.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	The promoting of high standards of Conduct contributes to the Council's Corporate Priority of being 'A Council to be proud of'.
Financial, Resource and Property	None identified at this stage
Legal and Statutory	None identified at this stage
Crime and Disorder	None identified at this stage
Environmental	None identified at this stage

Sustainability	
Health and Wellbeing	None identified at this stage
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified at this stage
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage
Privacy and Data Protection	Whilst this report refers to a specific individual the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee resolved to hear the matter in public. In addition the Council's Standard Committee Procedure Rules require the Monitoring Officer to publish a summary of the decision, therefore the information is already in the public domain.

7 Appendices

7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix I: Standards Hearing Sub-Committee Decision Notice – Complaint Number SBC 1.17

8 Background Papers

None