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# HEARING SUB COMMITTEE

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**Tuesday, 18th January, 2022**

**Present:** Councillor , Councillors Andrew Clegg, Laurence Loft and Kath Pratt

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**235 Apologies for Absence, Substitutions, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no apologies, substitutions, declarations of interest or dispensations declared at the meeting.

**236 Exclusions of the Public**

**Resolved**

- That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the following item, when it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, that there would otherwise be disclosure of exempt information within the Paragraphs at Schedule 12A of the Act specified at the item.

**237 Standards Investigations**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services) to update the Hearing Sub-Committee about the progress of the five recent standards investigations. The complaints were considered initially by the Council's Standards Assessment Panel, which concluded that all five complaints should be investigated. Due to the nature of the complaints, they were referred to a third party for investigation. The investigation was completed and the conclusions were submitted to Committee who were requested to make a decision on whether any further action should be taken in respect of the complaints.

**Decision of the Hearing Sub-Committee:-**

**Resolved**

- (1) That the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee found that each of the complaints had been thoroughly investigated. They found that all parties involved in the complaints had been given a fair opportunity to provide relevant information and respond to findings. Due to the already thorough nature of the investigations, it was considered that there would be nothing further to be gained, and that it would not be a good use of the Council's resources nor serve the public interest, to refer any of the complaints to a full Standards Hearing. The Hearing Sub-Committee was satisfied with, and accepted, the Investigating Officer's conclusion there had been no breach of the Code of Conduct in respect of each of the five complaints; and
- (2) That the Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services) sends a letter to the Independent Investigator, on behalf

**of the Committee, to thank them for the full and thorough investigations into each complaint and well written reports provided to help the Committee to reach decisions on each complaint.**

Signed:.....

Date: .....

Chair of the meeting  
At which the minutes were confirmed