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## HEARING SUB COMMITTEE

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**Thursday, 19th September, 2024**

**Present:** Councillor Stephen Button (in the Chair), Councillors Melissa Fisher, Zak Khan, Laurence Loft, Judith Addison and Clare Pritchard

**Apologies** Ethan Rawcliffe

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

Apologies received from Councillor Ethan Rawcliffe.

Councillor Clare Pritchard substituted for Councillor Rawcliffe.

**155 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

This item was deferred to the next Standards Committee on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**156 Exclusion of the Public**

The Committee had a discussion with the Investigating Officer and the Subject Councillor; neither were seeking exclusion of the public.

**Resolved – The Committee agreed to open the meeting to the public.**

**157 Standards Investigation**

A report was submitted by the Head of Audit & Investigations to update the Hearing Sub-Committee about the progress of a recent standards investigation.

The complaint was heard at the Standards Assessment Panel meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024, which determined that the complaint should be formally investigated with the complainant remaining anonymous.

The investigation was then carried out by the Head of Audit & Investigations and the report was completed in August 2024.

The complaint suggested the Subject Councillor had breached 4 parts of the code of conduct.

The investigation report detailed the conclusions of the code of conduct breach.

The Committee considered the investigating report and asked questions for clarification to the investigating officer and subject Councillor.

The Committee found that 1 part of the code of conduct had been breached which was Part 1. Para 2 (i).

The Committee asked that any future agendas that are restricted, need to be highlighted within the subject line of the email when being sent out from Democratic Services.

It was noted that All Councillors should be attending the Mandatory training, which includes Data Protection.

**Resolved – That the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee found that the subject Councillor had breached 1 part of the code of conduct but no further action to be taken.**

Signed:.....

Date: .....

Chair of the meeting  
At which the minutes were confirmed