

Promoting Compliance With the Code of Conduct					
Report by:	Councillor Huw H Roberts				
Political Group:	Independent				
No. of members:	No. trained on Code:				100 %
For the period:	31 st March 2023 – 1 April 2024				
Number, Source and Level of Complaints					
	Informal	Local Resolution (Stage)			PSOW
		1	2	3	
Public	2				2
Officers	0				
Councillors	0				
Steps taken to Promote Compliance (To Be Completed by Group Leader)					
Include matters such as:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demonstrating personal commitment to and attending relevant development or training around equalities and standards; - encouraging group members to attend relevant development or training around equalities and standards; - ensuring nominees to a Committee have received the recommended training for that Committee: 					

I am personally committed to the principle that members should avail themselves of the training opportunities that are provided to them and encourage members of the group to attend relevant training. Every member of the Independent Group has received Code of Conduct training.

All members of the group who sit on the Planning and Licensing Committees have attended the relevant mandatory training courses that have been provided.

- promoting civility and respect within group communications and meetings and in formal Council meetings;
- promoting informal resolution procedures in the Council, and working with the Standards Committee and monitoring officers to achieve local resolution;
- promoting a culture within the group which supports high standards of conduct and integrity;
- attend a meeting of the Council's Standards Committee if requested to discuss Code of Conduct issues;

I hold regular meetings with the group and we will often discuss issues around conduct. I will relay to the group any relevant messages arising from group leader meetings pertaining to conduct. The group leader meetings are attended by the CEO and Monitoring Officer. While these meetings cover a wide range of topics we do sometimes consider issues relating to conduct. We have in the past discussed issues such as the issue of some members talking or making remarks while others are speaking. As group leaders we have agreed to remind our members of the appropriate standards and I have done so within my group.

I believe in informal resolution of issues and am more than willing to get involved in brokering local resolution of issues. These are thankfully rare.

At our group meetings we will discuss conduct issues from time to time and I will remind members of their responsibilities particularly before potentially contentious meetings.

I have provided some informal coaching to less experienced members.

- work to implement any recommendations from the Standards Committee about improving standards;
- work together with other group leaders, within reason to collectively support high standards of conduct within the Council.

I have the greatest respect for the Standards Committee and am particularly pleased that the Independent Group is represented on the committee. I welcome guidance and recommendations from the Committee and am committed to ensuring high standards in my group and across the Council.

As noted above the group leaders do discuss conduct issues. I believe that it is important that group leaders set an example and I feel that the way in which our group leader meetings are conducted is open and constructive. While we may not agree on every issue we are able to have those discussions in a respectful way. Maintaining these relationships makes it easier to deal with difficult issues including those relating to conduct. I think we all understand our responsibility and are prepared to work together to maintain high standards.