

MAIN AREAS OF CHANGE – STANDARDS ARRANGEMENTS

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL			
Section	Provision	Proposal	Reason for change
3.4	Complaints between two members to be referred to group leaders	Could be referred as part of an informal resolution	Allows for complaints to be correctly recorded and committee to see trends
3.5	Complaints about Town/Parish Councillors – Clerk consulted and asked to deal	Not included	It is not the role of the Parish Clerk to informally deal with complaints and this is a matter for the MO under legislation
Step 3	MO to always consult IP before accepting an anonymous complaint or withholding identity	Not included	MO has the ability to consult the IP if they consider it appropriate
Step 5 & 6 5.16	Informal Investigation	Not included	Not good practice. An 'informal investigation' is not possible – either a complaint is formally investigated or is suitable for informal resolution and no decision is made as to whether the Code has been breached.
Step 9	If the complainant is not satisfied by the proposed resolution or the subject member refuses to comply then this is reported to a hearing	Not included	It is for the MO to decide whether the proposed informal resolution is appropriate after representations from the subject member/complainant. If the subject member refuses to comply then the MO will apply the public interest test.
5.4	Complaint to be shared with councillor in all cases	Complaint to be shared unless it is a suspected criminal offence or evidence would be destroyed	To support the complaints process
5.19	Member has the right to consult MO	Not included	This would lead to a conflict of interest – member has the right to consult the IP
8.1	Informal resolution reported to Standards Committee Chair	Not included as part of MO Annual Report	To allow committee members to see patterns and trends with a full picture
8.5	Meetings of the Hearings Panel in public unless the MO agrees otherwise	Matter for the Hearings Panel to decide on advice from the MO	This is a member decision
9.1	Hearings Panel may publish a decision notice	Hearings Panel will publish a decision notice	Decisions of the Hearings Panel should be public as it is a sub-committee of the Council and

			there is public interest in the outcome of standards matters
14(b)	Appeal by councillor to another Standards Panel	Not included	Not good practice – the Standards regime is supposed to be light touch. Complaints on matters of procedure can be made to the Ombudsman.
GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL			
7.2	Details of complaint passed to Parish Member and IP	Consultation with IP only	Not a matter for the Parish representative
7.6	Assessment Sub-Committee if MO refers in their discretion	MO decides how to progress a complaint after consultation with the IP	Consistency
8.5	MO will consider with IP whether the subject member has resolved complaint	MO to decide	MO can consult the IP at any stage if they wish
App.2 S8	MO to notify chair of committee of investigation	Not included	Included in MO report so that all members are aware