

<b><u>Promoting Compliance With the Code of Conduct</u></b>			
Report by:	Cllr Ross Penhale-Thomas		
Political Group:	Democratic Alliance		
No. of members:	8	No. trained on Code:	8 (100%)
For the period:	July 2023 – June 2024		
<b><u>Number, Source and Level of Complaints</u></b>			
	<b>Informal</b>	<b>Local Resolution</b>	<b>PSOW</b>
Public	0	0	0
Officers	0	0	0
Councillors	0	0	0
<b><u>Steps taken to Promote Compliance (To Be Completed by Group Leader)</u></b>			
Include matters such as:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- demonstrating personal commitment to and attending relevant development or training around equalities and standards;</li> <li>- encouraging group members to attend relevant development or training around equalities and standards;</li> <li>- ensuring nominees to a Committee have received the recommended training for that Committee;</li> </ul>			
<p>All 8 members of my group are up to date on code of conduct training.</p> <p>Having sought an update on the completion of mandatory e-learning modules, it's clear there's more work to do (including on my own part) – we'll hopefully have this resolved shortly.</p> <p>Members of my group are regularly reminded of important council briefings and training sessions and, wherever possible, make every effort to attend (while some juggle a number of other commitments, including full time work).</p>			

<p>One member of my group is a recent addition to the Development Control Committee and is currently seeking a date with officers for the relevant training in order to participate.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- promoting civility and respect within group communications and meetings and in formal Council meetings;</li><li>- promoting informal resolution procedures in the Council, and working with the Standards Committee and monitoring officers to achieve local resolution;</li><li>- promoting a culture within the group which supports high standards of conduct and integrity;</li><li>- attend a meeting of the Council's Standards Committee if requested to discuss Code of Conduct issues;</li></ul>
<p>I have provided advice to members of my group on various council and conduct-related issues, as appropriate, and often sign-post to the Monitoring Officer. I have, myself, maintained regular contact with the Monitoring Officer on my own interests as well as on issues that cut across political groups and the council.</p> <p>No members of my group have been subject to any complaints – informal or otherwise – and I regularly remind them of their obligations re the highest standard of conduct.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- work to implement any recommendations from the Standards Committee about improving standards;</li><li>- work together with other group leaders, within reason, to collectively support high standards of conduct within the Council.</li></ul>
<p>As per last year's report, I remain ready and willing to work with the Standards Committee on this or any other member conduct-related issues.</p> <p>I have continued to work hard at ensuring an open (if, frank) relationship with Leaders of both the Labour and BCI groups – which has aided constructive dialogue. I am hopeful this will continue under Cllr Spanswick's stewardship of the Labour Group.</p>