



Committee and date Standards Committee	Item No 10
28 January 2010	
4.00 p.m.	Public

OTHER ACTION

Responsible Officer Claire Porter

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Summary

In the event that the Assessment Sub-Committee directs the Monitoring Officer to take "Other Action", he/she is required to report the outcome of that other action to the Committee.

The Assessment Sub-Committee of this Council directed the Monitoring Officer to take other action in relation to allegations they have received. This was completed by 8 October 2009.

Recommendations

- A. That the report on other action taken by the Monitoring Officer be noted.

Report

1. Following receipt of an allegation that a member of a Council has failed to comply with that Authority's Code of Conduct, the Assessment Sub-Committee of the Principal Authority must consider how best to deal with the allegation.
2. One of the options available to the Sub-Committee is a direction to the Monitoring Officer to take "Other Action". This can be in the form of additional training, mediation, conciliation or any other steps which might seem appropriate.

3. The Assessment Sub-Committee on 28 July 2009, following consideration of complaints that two members of West Felton Parish Council may have ailed to comply with its code of conduct, directed the Monitoring Officer to provide training on the code of conduct with particular regard to conduct which could reasonably be regarded as bringing the office, or authority into disrepute and member's interests, for all members of the Parish Council.
4. The training was delivered by the Monitoring Officer of Shropshire Council immediately prior to the meeting of the Parish Council which was held on 24 September 2009.
5. The training was received very well with six of the eleven members of the Parish Council in attendance. The then Acting Clerk was absent. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss examples which may have caused some concern. At the end of the session, the members indicated that they had found it very useful and that they felt that it clarified some issues dealt with by the code.
6. One member of the Parish Council who was unable to attend the training on the 24 September did however attend a similar training session for parish/town councils held in Oswestry on 8 October 2009. Consequently four members of West Felton Parish Council did not attend either of the training sessions, but one of these members has however resigned her membership.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
Decision Notices
Human Rights Act Appraisal The contents of this report are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998
Environmental Appraisal These proposals will have no significant impact on the environment
Risk Management Appraisal Inadequate training provision may reduce the capacity of members to carry out their roles effectively
Community / Consultations Appraisal N/A
Cabinet Member N/A
Local Member All
Appendices N/A