

**REPORT TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>Resources and Performance Management</b>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	<b>Lukman Patel</b>
<b>TEL NO</b>	<b>7140</b>
<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:lpatel@burnley.gov.uk">lpatel@burnley.gov.uk</a>

**Member Complaints Statistics 2021/22 Municipal Year****PURPOSE**

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| 1. | To provide an interim update to the Council's Audit and Standards Committee regarding complaints made about the conduct of Members during the 2021/22 Municipal Year. |
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**RECOMMENDATION**

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| 2. | It is recommended that the Audit and Standards Committee note the report. |
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**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

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| 3. | It is important that the committee is regularly appraised of the complaints made against elected Members as it has the responsibility to promote and maintain high standards of conduct of elected Members. |
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**SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS**

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| 4. | Complaints regarding the conduct of Members are submitted to and considered by the Council's Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer decides whether the complaint should be investigated, dealt with informally or rejected.   |
| 5. | This municipal year (to date), the council's Monitoring Officer has received six complaints regarding the conduct of Members.  |
| 6. | <p>A summary of those complaints and associated actions is summarised below:</p> <p>Three complaints were made by Members relating to the conduct of other Members. These were withdrawn before the complaint initial assessment was undertaken.</p> <p>A complaint was received regarding inaccurate information disclosed on the register of interests of an elected Member. It transpired that the register of interests had been updated but the old copy of the register was also available on the council's website that prompted the complaint.</p> <p>Mediation was considered the appropriate response in relation to the remaining two complaints following a complaint initial assessment undertaken by the council's Monitoring officer in consultation with the Council's Independent Person.</p> |

7.	It is proposed that an updated report for 2021/22 Member complaints is provided to the committee at the beginning of the next municipal year.
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<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION</b>
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8.	None arising directly from this report.
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<b>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</b>
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9.	Not applicable.
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<b>DETAILS OF CONSULTATION</b>
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10.	Not applicable.
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