

Cheltenham Borough Council

Audit, Compliance and Governance Committee

15 July 2026

Annual Standards Report

Accountable officer:

Claire Hughes, Director of Governance, Housing and Communities (Monitoring Officer) Services

Ward(s) affected:

All

Key Decision: No

Executive summary:

The report sets out a summary of code of conduct complaints received and considered by the Monitoring Officer between the period 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026

Recommendations:

That the Audit, Compliance and Governance Committee notes the report

1 Summary of Code of Conduct Complaints

1.1 The council, and all parish councils in the Borough, have a statutory duty under the Localism Act 2011 to 'promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members of the authority'.

1.2 The monitoring officer is responsible for dealing with allegations that councillors have failed to comply with the members' code of conduct and for administering the local standards framework.

1.3 In accordance with Section 28 Localism Act 2011 the council has adopted a code of conduct, and this has also been made available to all parish councils to inform the adoption of their own code.

1.4 During the period 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, the Monitoring received two Code of Conduct complaints.

Date	Subject Council	Outcome
November 2025	Complaint regarding a member of Cheltenham Borough Council	Complaint was partially upheld and a letter of apology was issued by the member
March 2026	Complaint regarding a member of Cheltenham Borough Council	Following an initial assessment and consultation with the Independent Person a decision notice was issued with the outcome of No Further Action

1.5 At the time of writing there are no outstanding Code of Conduct complaints.

Report author:

Claire Hughes, Director of Governance, Housing and Communities (Monitoring Officer)