

**North Tyneside Council**  
**Report to: Standards Sub-Committee**  
**Date: 1 March 2016**

**ITEM 5**

**Title: Standards Sub-Committee Hearing into Allegation of Breach of the Members' Code of Conduct**

---

**Report Authors:** Vivienne Geary (Tel: 0191 643 5339)  
Head of Law and Governance

Stephen Ballantyne (Tel: 0191 643 5329)  
Lawyer Specialist – Governance and Employment

**Wards affected:** ALL

---

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To present a report of the Investigating Officer in relation to an alleged breach of the Members' Code of Conduct in relation to Complaint NT05/2015.

**2.0 Recommendation(s)**

(1) The Standards Sub-Committee is required to decide whether the Member, against whom the allegations have been made, has breached the Code of Conduct; and

(2) What, if any where a breach of the Code of Conduct is found, penalty to apply.

**3.0 Information**

3.1 The Standards Sub-Committee is required to consider the completed investigation report from the Investigating Officer in respect of the following complaint: NT05/2015.

3.2 In considering the Investigating Officer's report the Sub-Committee will be required to determine whether or not the Member has failed to follow the Council's adopted Members' Code of Conduct and, if so, what penalty should be applied, if any.

3.3 The Sub-Committee should act in an inquisitorial manner, rather than an adversarial manner, seeking the truth in relation to the conduct of the Member on the balance of the information available to it, and may commission further investigation or information if it needs to do so in order to come to a decision. The Sub-Committee's role is governed by the Authority Local Arrangements for dealing with Complaints against Members.

3.4 Attached as Appendix A is the Procedure to be followed for the Hearing.

3.5 Attached as Appendix B is the Pre-Hearing Summary in relation to complaint NT05/2015.

3.6 Attached as Appendix C is the Investigating Officer's report.

#### **4.0 Appendices (if any)**

Appendix A - Hearing Procedure

Appendix B - Pre-Hearing Summary Report

Appendix C - Investigating Officer's Report

#### **5.0 Background Information**

North Tyneside Council Constitution

North Tyneside Council Members' Code of Conduct