

**Teignbridge District Council
Governance Committee
Tuesday 30th June 2026
Part i**

Code of Conduct Complaints Update

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on the Councillor Code of Conduct complaints received.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee RESOLVES to:

(1) Receive the report and the contents within.

Financial Implications

No financial implications arise from this report.

Charlie Fisher – Democratic Services Manager & Monitoring Officer

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Legal Implications

No direct legal implications arise from this report. The Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to adopt a Code of Conduct which the Council complies with. Arrangements for the operation of the Code of Conduct are the responsibility of the Council.

Charlie Fisher – Democratic Services Manager & Monitoring Officer

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Risk Assessment

No direct risk implications arise from this report, Breach of the Code of Conduct is Corporate Risk and the Committee contributes to the mitigation of this risk. The report provides an opportunity to report on the complaints received in mitigating the risk and their wider role in the Governance of the Council.

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Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

No direct environment or climate change implications arise from this report.

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Report Author

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Executive Member

Councillor Richard Keeling – Leader

Appendices

1. Code of Conduct Complaints Update

1. Introduction/Background

At the Governance Committee meeting on Thursday 2nd October 2025, the Committee agreed that a regular update of Code of Conduct complaints would be reported to the Committee.

2. Main Body

The update is appended to this report.

3. Implications, Risk Management and Climate Change Impact

Implications and risks are covered on page 1 of the report.

4. Alternative Options

There is no legal requirement to provide and publish an update, but it is considered good practice and benchmarked to other Local Authorities to share the complaints received to discharge of the Council's duties to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members.

5. Conclusion

The Committee is asked to receive the report and the information contained within.

Appendix 1: Member Code of Conduct Complaints received

Time period: 10th April – 19th June 2026

FS Reference	Date received	Complainant type	Subject Member(s)	Summary of complaint	Current stage	IP consulted?	Appealed?	Summary
FS-CASE-839257569	29 th April 2026	Member of the Public	Town/Parish Councillor	Behaviour at a Town Council meeting.	Closed	No	No	Invalid – would not amount to a breach.
FS-CASE-833114310	29 th April 2026	Town/Parish Councillor	District/Town Councillor	Unpleasant, aggressive and intimidating behaviour following the Annual Town Council meeting.	Stage 6 – Local Resolution	Yes		Offer of local resolution made to Subject Member has been declined. Subject Member has asked to speak to an Independent Person to help resolve complaint.
FS-CASE-833609448	30 th April 2026	Town/Parish Councillor	District/Town Councillor	Unpleasant, aggressive and intimidating behaviour following the Annual Town Council meeting.	Stage 6 – Local Resolution	Yes		Local resolution found and accepted by complainant. Group Leader informed.
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FS-CASE-838151558	15 th May 2026	District/Town Councillor	District/Town Councillor	Unpleasant, aggressive and intimidating behaviour following a Town Council meeting.	Stage 6 – Local Resolution	Yes		Offer of local resolution made to Subject Member for consideration. Group Leader informed.
FS-Case-839322769	19 th May 2026	County Councillor	District Councillor	Social media comments	Closed at Stage 2			Invalid – would not amount to a breach.

FS Reference	Date received	Complainant type	Subject Member(s)	Summary of complaint	Current stage	IP consulted?	Appealed?	Summary
FS-Case-839365110	19 th May 2026	Town Councillor	Town Councillor	Comments on a private WhatsApp group	Closed at Stage 2	IP consulted on the appeal	Yes	Initially determined as invalid as would not amount to a breach. Complainant appealed and IP was consulted, no change to original decision made.
FS-Case-841142270	26 th May 2026	Member of Public	District/Town Councillor	Social Media comments	Closed at Stage 2 – invalid.	IP consulted on the appeal	Yes	Initially determined as invalid as would not amount to a breach. Complainant appealed and IP was consulted, invalid appeal and no change to original decision made.
FS-Case-841142270	26 th May 2026	Member of Public	Town Councillor	Intimidation and harassment at an event, despite previous police and court involvement.	Stage 1			Complaint referred to the Police – Chair and Vice Chair of Committee informed. Complaint under review whilst liaising with Police.
FS-Case-844046181	4 th June 2026	Member of Public	N/A	Complaint against an Officer	Closed at Stage 2 - Invalid			Invalid – incorrect complaints channel used. Complainant informed of correct procedure to use.
FS-Case-844424326	5 th June 2026	Town Councillor	Town Councillor	Discrimination against Councillor at a Council meeting	Stage 3 – Subject Member Response sought.			Response from Subject Member sought.

FS Reference	Date received	Complainant type	Subject Member(s)	Summary of complaint	Current stage	IP consulted?	Appealed?	Summary
FS-Case-844732257	8 th June 2026	Town Councillor	Town Councillor	Discrimination against Councillor at a Council meeting.	Closed at Stage 1 – repeat complaint.			Repeated complaint, complainant advised that it will be closed and first complaint used.
FS-Case-848453562	16 th June 2026	District Councillor	District Councillor	Comments about another Member made during and after a Committee meeting.	Stage 1 - acknowledged			
FS-Case-849067300	18 th June 2026	District Councillor	District Councillor	Response to a question asked at a Committee meeting.	Stage 1 – acknowledged			
FS-Case-849119511	19 th June 2026	Other	Parish Councillor	Comments made to a member of the public regarding their garden.	Stage 1 – acknowledged			