

<p>Number of Complaints Received in 2015/2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 Complaints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 Lewes District Council - 1 Newhaven - 1 Peacehaven Town Council - 2 Telscombe Town Council - 3 Seaford Town Council
<p>Number of Complaints considered by the Monitoring Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7 complaints were considered by the Monitoring Officer, but did not require an independent investigation - 1 complaint was considered by the Monitoring Officer which warranted referral to an Independent Investigator. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five complaints related to allegations that Councillors had been rude and/or bullying and had shown a lack of respect. <p>Four of these complaints were considered in consultation with an Independent Person. No further action was taken on three of the complaints.</p> <p>One of the above complaints was dealt with by the Monitoring Officer in an official capacity. The Monitoring Officer asked the Councillor to attend an interview after which time the Monitoring Officer found that the Councillor had not breached the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>One complaint was referred to an Independent Investigator. The Investigator's Report recommended that the Council find the Councillors had not breached the Code of Conduct.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- One complaint alleged that a Councillor had purposely been untruthful regarding attendance at an event in an official capacity as a Councillor. A formal investigation on behalf of the Monitoring Officer found that the relative Code of Conduct had not been breached.- One complaint alleged that a Councillor had made inappropriate remarks on social media in an official capacity as a Councillor. After further investigation, the Monitoring Officer found that the Councillor had not breached the Code of Conduct, as the Councillor was not acting in an official capacity as a Councillor at the time. Nevertheless, a letter to the Councillor was drafted by the Monitoring Officer reminding the Councillor of the Equality Policy.- One complaint alleged inappropriate practice by a Councillor acting in their official capacity as a Councillor. The Monitoring Officer found there to be no breach of the Code but recommended a way in which the
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		Council might improve its governance procedures.
Number of Complaints not progressed and reasons why	- N/A	- N/A
Number of Standards Panels held	- 0	- 0
Number of Standards Hearings held	- 0	- 0
Cost to the District Council of engaging investigator	- 1 complaint warranted action by an Independent Investigator.	- The cost for the external investigator was £5362.50.