

Complaints about councillor conduct received by Lewes District Council's
Monitoring Officer 2018/2019

<p>Number of complaints received and to whom they related</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 Lewes Town Councillors - 1 Newhaven Town Councillor - 3 Peacehaven Town Councillors - 3 Seaford Town Councillor - 1 South Heighton Parish Councillor - 3 Telscombe Town Councillors - 1 Lewes District Councillor
<p>Nature of complaints and how dealt with</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 of the allegations did not disclose any actionable complaint. - The remaining 10 were considered by the Monitoring Officer or her Deputy and, following consultation with an Independent Person, assessed as not warranting formal investigation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 complaints related to alleged defamatory statements made by councillors on social media. - 4 complaints related to alleged defamatory statements made by councillors either face to face or by phone. - 1 complaint alleged a breach of confidentiality.
<p>Sanctions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As none of the complaints warranted formal investigation, no sanctions were taken against the councillors complained of. Where relevant, the MO made governance recommendations to the town/parish council in question, to address any underlying cause(s) of the complaint. 	

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<p>Number of complaints not progressed and reasons why</p>	<p>- 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 complaint was about an employee, not a councillor. - 1 related to an individual who was no longer a councillor. - 2 related to planning decisions rather than councillor misconduct. - 1 complaint was unclear and the complainant did not respond to a request for further information.
<p>Number of Standards Panels held</p>	<p>- Nil</p>	
<p>Cost to the District Council of engaging external investigator</p>	<p>- Nil</p>	