

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE ON 31 JANUARY 2019

SUBJECT:	Assessment Panel Decision – Allegation against Bognor Regis Town Councillor Damien Enticott
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REPORT AUTHOR:	Liz Fitcher – Group Head of Council Advice & Monitoring Officer
DATE:	26 November 2018
EXTN:	01903 737610

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report advises the Committee of the outcome of the Assessment Panel's investigation into allegations received against Councillor Damien Enticott, a Bognor Regis Town Councillor.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the decisions of the Assessment Panel be noted; and
- (2) the outcome of the Committee's review of the publication period be confirmed at the meeting.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The role of the Assessment Panel is to consider whether the Councillor has breached the Code of Conduct based on the complaint received. If this is found to be the case, then the Panel will decide on whether any action should be taken. In this case, three separate complaints were received against the Councillor.
- 1.2 The Panel met on 17 October 2018 and the findings from its investigation are attached as Appendix A, B and C. No review of the decision was requested by either the Councillor or the Complainants by the expiry date of the review period. The decision notices were published on 26 November 2018.
- 1.3 In finding the Councillor in breach of the Code of Conduct, the Panel determined that its decision notices should be published for the maximum period of 12 months. In line with paragraph 6.8 of the Local Assessment Procedure, the Panel wish to ask the Committee to carry out a further review of its findings to determine whether there should be a longer timeframe for publishing these decisions in view of the nature of the complaints.

2.0 PROPOSALS

- 2.1 To note the decisions of the Assessment Panel made in accordance with the Local Assessment Procedure.

3.0 OPTIONS

1. To accept the Panel's request for a further review of the publication period for these decisions and confirm an alternative publication period.
2. To not accept the Panel's request and confirm the publication period as 12 months.

4.0 CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The decision notices were consulted upon with the Subject Member and Complainant before being published	✓	

5.0 ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail below)	YES	NO
Financial		✓
Legal	✓	
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓

6.0 IMPLICATIONS:

None

7.0 REASON FOR THE DECISION:

To reflect the Local Assessment Procedure which requires the decision of the Assessment Panel to be reported to the Standards Committee.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Members Code of Conduct and Local Assessment Procedure
<https://www.arun.gov.uk/complaints-against-councillors>