

Summary of Standards Processes of Other authorities

Authority	Standards system
Gloucestershire	Monitoring officer, in consultation with independent person, makes initial assessment. May decide no action; refer to police; resolve informally or refer for investigation. If investigated, appoint an investigation officer, who produces a report. If breach found, MO may resolve or refer to Hearings Panel (a sub-committee of A & G). The panel comprises five politically proportionate members. Panel holds a hearing and makes decision. Not clear whether hearing is public, but as sub-committee of A & G, likely that it is.
Worcestershire	Has a Standards and Ethics Committee. Initial assessment by MO. May decide no action, investigation or other action. If investigation, MO appoints an investigation officer. Investigator produces draft report for comment by complainant and subject member, then final report for MO which is presented to the S & E Committee. The committee holds a consideration hearing, followed, where a breach is identified, by a full hearing. Hearings are normally held in public.
Shropshire	Monitoring officer makes initial assessment and tries to resolve informally. If investigation required, MO appoints an investigation officer. Investigator produces draft report for comment, then final report to MO. If breach identified, report sent to sub-committee of the Standards Committee, and a hearing is held. The standards sub-committee comprises three members appointed on ad hoc basis
Staffordshire	MO makes initial assessment. If apparent breach, complaint referred to panel comprising five members of the council's Audit and Standards Committee. Panel meets to consider written submissions, then reports findings to A & S Committee.
Cheshire East	Four Independent Persons. Pool of 15 members of A & G to select panel and sub-committee members from. Complaint referred to A & G Initial Assessment Panel. Panel decides whether to take no action, refer complaint for local resolution; refer complaint for formal investigation by external investigator; refer complaint to police or other relevant regulatory agency. Local Resolution is an ad hoc panel of three members plus independent person, which meets in public. Complainant & subject member, plus any witnesses attend. Panel may conclude complaint and determine sanctions, or refer for formal investigation. For formal investigation, an independent investigation officer is appointed. If possible breach, complaint referred to standards Hearing Sub-committee, and a public hearing is held. There is a right of appeal against the hearing Sub-committee decision. Appeals Panel is three different A & G members plus independent person. Appeals panel conducts a complete reconsideration of the whole complaint. Their decision is final.
Bracknell Forest	Council has a standards committee made up of four independent persons, three borough councillors and one parish councillor. When complaint received, MO consults the chairman of the standards committee. They decide whether to take no action, refer complaint for informal resolution or refer for formal investigation. If formal investigation, MO appoints an investigation officer. If breach found and informal action not appropriate, complaint referred for full hearing before the Standards Committee.
Cornwall	Council has a Standards Committee with 29 Members: 9 members of Cornwall Council, 10 independent members and 10 parish/town and city council representatives. Independent members and parish/town and city council representatives sit on the committee as co-opted non-voting members. Initial assessment by MO. MO may determine complaint or convene a panel of members of the standards committee. Complainant/subject member may request a review of decision. Assessment and review of complaints conducted in private session. Written summary of the assessment or review published as decision notice. If investigation required, investigation is conducted by member of the council's legal team.
North Lincolnshire	Council has a Standards Committee and Hearings Panel, which operate as under the previous system. They also have an assessment panel. Initial decisions may be made by the MO or assessment panel. MO or panel decides whether complaint should be investigated. If so, MO appoints officer or external investigator. Investigator's report goes the standards committee who may refer the complaint to the Hearings Panel.

