

Report on Compliance With the Group Leaders Duty

Report by:	Councillor Deryk Cundy		
Political Group:	Labour		
No. of members:	21	No. trained on Code:	21 (100%)
For the period:	8 th February 2024 until 31 st March 2024* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I did not become the Leader of the Labour Group until 8th February 2024. This report therefore deals only with matters arising since my appointment to that role. 		

Number, Source and Level of Complaints

From	Local Resolution	Public Services Ombudsman			Other
		No Action	Referred to Standards committee	Referred to APW	
Public	0	0	0	0	
Officers	0	0	0	0	
Councillors	0	0	0	0	

Steps taken to Promote Compliance (To Be Completed by Group Leader)

Address such matters such as:

- demonstrating personal commitment to and attending and participating in relevant development or training around equalities and standards, including on the Code of Conduct.
- actively encouraging group members to attend relevant development or training around equalities and standards including in relation to the Code of Conduct.
- ensuring nominees to a committee have received the recommended training for participating on that committee;

I have personally attended code of conduct training prior to becoming group leader.

Since becoming Group Leader I have taken the following steps to promote compliance within the Labour Group

1. Spoken to Group Members collectively and stressed the importance of them acting in a professional manner and complying with the code.
2. Arranged for the agenda for the next AGM of the Group to contain specific items relating to the personal conduct of members.
3. Since becoming Group Leader I have not become aware of any code complaints against Group members

STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT POOR BEHAVIOUR

Address such matters as:

- promoting civility and respect within group communications and meetings and in formal council meetings.
- promoting civility and respect in all online and social media communications.
- supporting informal resolution procedures in the council, and working with the standards committee and monitoring officers to achieve local resolution.
- encouraging a culture within the group which supports high standards of conduct and integrity;

Since becoming Group Leader I have taken the following steps to prevent poor behaviour by Group Members

1. Continued my predecessor's efforts to ensure social media posts by Group Members do not breach the code.
2. Continued with using internal 'contracts' in which any new Labour councillor would commit to comply with the code

STEPS TAKEN TO WORK WITH THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND/OR OTHER GROUP LEADERS

Address such matters as:

- Attending any meeting of the council's standards committee if requested to participate in discussions on Code of Conduct issues.
- Implementing any recommendations from the standards committee about improving standards.
- Working with the standards committee to proactively identify, consider and tackle patterns of inappropriate behavior.
- Working together with other group leaders to collectively support high standards of conduct within the council.

Since becoming Group Leader I have taken the following steps to work with the Standards Committee and other Group Leaders

1. Submitted my Annual Report for consideration by the Committee and prioritised my attendance at the meeting with committee scheduled for the 22nd April 2024.
2. Looked to foster positive working arrangements with the other political groups and their Leaders, particularly around the budget setting process.
3. I would like to think I have a positive personal relationship with the other two group leaders.