

STANDARDS COMMITTEE



Report subject	Dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer
Meeting date	29 April 2025
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	To retrospectively report the dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer for the time period 11 January 2025 to 17 April 2025
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that: Standards Committee note the dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer for the time period 11 January 2025 to 17 April 2025
Reason for recommendations	To support a robust ethical governance framework, the Standards Committee should be informed of decisions made in respect of Councillors and the application of the Councillor Code of Conduct.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Not applicable
Corporate Director	Graham Farrant, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Janie Berry, Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Wards	Not applicable
Classification	For Information

Background

1. A dispensation was granted to all Councillors for the meetings held during March 2025, namely Overview & Scrutiny Board, Cabinet and Council, to enable all to fully and freely participate in the debate on the agenda item relating to the Community Governance Review. The dispensation was granted as many BCP Councillors were Charter Trustees and or Members of existing Town and Parish Councils.

Options Appraisal

2. As this report notes the retrospective granting of dispensations there are no alternative options available for consideration. The failure to grant a dispensation would have had the potential to adversely affect the debate of the item in question

Summary of financial implications

3. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

Summary of legal implications

4. A dispensation may be granted by the Monitoring Officer in accordance with s33 Localism Act 2011. It is good practice for these decisions to be reported to the Standards Committee so as to promote integrity and transparency of decision making.

Summary of human resources implications

5. There are no human resources implications arising from this report

Summary of sustainability impact

6. There are no sustainability impact issues directly arising from this report

Summary of public health implications

7. There are no public health implications directly arising from this report

Summary of equality implications

There are none directly arising from this report

Summary of risk assessment

8. There are none directly arising from this report

Background papers

BCP Council Constitution

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 4 March 2025 – Agenda, Reports and Minutes

Cabinet – 5 March 2025 – Agenda, Reports and Minutes

Council – 25 March 2025 – Agenda, Reports and Minutes

Appendices

none