

# STANDARDS COMMITTEE



Report subject	<b>Dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer</b>
Meeting date	17 March 2026
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	To retrospectively report the dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer for the time period 1 September 2025 to 6 March 2026.
Recommendations	<b>It is RECOMMENDED that:</b>  <b>Standards Committee note the dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer for the time period 1 September 2025 to 6 March 2026</b>
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	Aidan Dunn, Chief Executive
Report Authors	Robin Watson, Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Wards	Not applicable
Classification	For Information

## Background

1. On 30 September 2025 a dispensation was granted to all Councillors for the meetings held during September 2025 and October 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.
2. On 24 November 2025 a dispensation was granted to all Councillors for the meetings held during the period to 31 March 2026, 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.

3. On 22 September 2025, a dispensation was granted to Councillor Kieron Wilson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Regulatory Services and with budget responsibility for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for all meetings held during the Municipal Year 2025-2026. This was to enable Councillor Wilson to fully and freely participate in the debate on any agenda item relating to the HRA or related housing income or activity of the Council. This dispensation had been granted for the previous Municipal Year by the Monitoring Officer at the time and was a request by Councillor Wilson for a renewal of the same and which was granted.
4. On 9 December 2025 a dispensation was granted to all Councillors for the Council meeting, to enable all to fully and freely participate in the debate on the agenda item relating to Home to School Transport. The dispensation was granted to ensure all councillors were freely able to fully participate.

### **Options Appraisal**

5. 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 items in question.

### **Summary of financial implications**

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

### **Summary of legal implications**

7. 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**

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

### **Summary of sustainability impact**

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

### **Summary of public health implications**

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

### **Summary of equality implications**

11. There are none directly arising from this report

### **Summary of risk assessment**

12. There are none directly arising from this report

### **Background papers**

Published works

## **Appendices**

There are no appendices to this report.