

Questions:

Cllr John Hughes of Clyffe Pypard Parish Council asked two questions to the Committee:

1. Please could the Committee advise me as to how many code of conduct complaints have been raised by members of the Clyffe Pypard Parish community (councillors and members of the public) to Wiltshire Council by other members of the Clyffe Pypard Parish community (councillors and members of the public) in the past three years (May 2020 - May 2023), and how many of these have been upheld?
2. At a recent Wiltshire Council Standards Assessment Sub-Committee hearing there were, I believe, 15 separate individuals (including the subject member) present in the West Wiltshire Room and, I believe, at least another 2 individuals attending the meeting remotely. Please could the Committee provide me with an estimate (to the nearest £1000) of the total cost to the Wiltshire tax payer of dealing with all Clyffe Pypard Parish originating code of conduct complaints during the period May 2020 - May 2023, and separately an estimate (to the nearest £1000) of the total cost to the Wiltshire tax payer of dealing specifically with the Wiltshire Council Code of Conduct complaints nos. COC128187, COC142984, COC142986?

Response provided by email on 24 April 2023:

1. In the last 3 years, Wiltshire Council has received 11 Code of Conduct complaints about members of Clyffe Pypard Parish Council. All of these have either been dismissed by the Monitoring Officer under paragraph 4.6 of Protocol 11 – Arrangements for Handling Code of Conduct Complaints, or have been determined as requiring no further action by a Standards Sub-Committee.
2. Wiltshire Council does not hold this information. The cost of officer time is included in the Legal and Governance directorate's annual budget. The council does not record the hours spent on, or cost of, individual complaints and it would not represent an efficient use of resources to calculate this.