

By: Head of Democratic Services

To: Standards Committee – 30 May 2007

Subject: **COMPLAINTS TO STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND – ANNUAL REPORT ON STATISTICS**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: Provides statistics on allegations made to the Standards Board for England over the last three years both nationally and in respect of KCC Members.

FOR INFORMATION

1. One of the items suggested for the Committee’s Programme of Work at the last meeting was the monitoring of Standards Board for England (SBE) statistics on allegations and findings to allow KCC to be compared with the national position.
2. SBE statistics on allegations and findings nationally over the last three years are as follows:-

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Total allegations	3861	3836	3549
Proportion against County Councils	3%	6%	4%
Allegations referred for investigation by an Ethical Standards Officer	24%	22%	19%
Findings by Ethical Standards Officer following investigation (% of number referred):-			
No breach of Code	21%	16%	39%
No further action required	66%	62%	54%
Referred to Monitoring Officer	5%	9%	4%
Referred to Adjudication Panel	8%	13%	3%

3. To provide a comparison, allegations and findings against KCC Members over the last three years have been as follows:-

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Total allegations	2	6	10
Allegations dismissed without referral to Ethical Standards Officer	1	6	6
Allegations referred for investigation by an Ethical Standards Officer	1	0	4
Ethical Standards Officer findings following investigation:-			
No breach of Code	0	-	2
No further action required	1	-	2
Referred to Monitoring Officer	0	-	0
Referred to Adjudication Panel	0	-	0

4. It is proposed to report to the Committee along these lines each year, so Members' views on the ways in which the usefulness of the report could be improved would be welcome.

5. Members are requested to note the contents of this report.

Background documents: *None*

S C Ballard
Head of Democratic Services
Tel: 01622 694002