

Member Code of Conduct Complaint Form

**Please use this form if you wish to make a Code of Conduct complaint against a Melton Borough Councillor or Parish Councillor or co-opted member.**

**Please note:**

* Complaints can only be accepted in writing or by email.
* Complaints can only be accepted in respect of a member’s conduct at a time when they were acting in their capacity as a Councillor; the Council has no jurisdiction over the conduct of a Councillor who is not either acting in their capacity as a Councillor, conducting the business of the Council or representing the Council or its views.
* The Council is unlikely to be able to keep your identity or the information you have provided confidential if you make a complaint. If you have serious concerns about disclosure of your name and a summary of your complaint, please complete section 8 on confidential information.
* An officer from the Council may contact you personally to go through the details of your complaint.

**Please send the completed form together with any attachments to:**

The Monitoring Officer

Melton Borough Council

Parkside, Burton Street

Melton Mowbray

Leicestershire

LE13 1GH

**Or by e-mail to:** monitoringofficer@melton.gov.uk

If you would like assistance with completing the form please contact:

Democratic Services on democracy@melton.gov.uk or

If you would like to discuss your concerns informally before submitting a complaint

please contact:

The Monitoring Officer on monitoringofficer@melton.gov.uk

# Section 1: Your details

| **Title:** |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First name:** |  |
| **Last name:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Daytime telephone:** |  |
| **Mobile telephone:** |  |
| **Email address:** |  |

Please consider the complaint and the evidence attached.

I understand and accept that my name will be disclosed to the Councillor and any parties involved in the complaints procedure or outside authorities required to monitor the Council’s complaints procedure by law.

My personal details provided on this form may also be shared with the police in the prevention or detection of crime.

| **Signed:** | **Date:** |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

**As the complainant, please indicate the categories which best describe you:**

|  | **Categories** |
| --- | --- |
|[ ]  Member of the public |
|[ ]  Elected / Co-opted Member of a Council or Parish/Town Council (please specify): |
|[ ]  Member of Parliament |
|[ ]  Local Authority employee |
|[ ]  Parish / Town Council employee (please specify): |
|[ ]  Other (Please specify) |

# Section 2: Who are you complaining about?

Please give the name of the Councillor or Co-opted Member of Melton Borough Council or Parish/Town Council that you believe has breached the Code of Conduct:

| **Title** | **First name** | **Last name** | **Borough Council or** **Parish Council[[1]](#footnote-1)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |

# Section 3: If your complaint concerns a Member of Melton Borough Council, please indicate which sections of the Members’ Code of Conduct have been breached?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Paragraph** | **Behaviour** | **Please Tick** |
| 1 | Respect |[ ]
| 2 | Bullying, Harassment & Discrimination |[ ]
| 3 | Impartiality of Officers of the Council |[ ]
| 4 | Confidentiality & Access to Information |[ ]
| 5 | Disrepute |[ ]
| 6 | Use of Position |[ ]
| 7 | Use of Council Resources & Facilities |[ ]
| 8 | Making Decisions |[ ]
| 9 | Complying with the Code of Conduct |[ ]
| 10 | Interests |[ ]
| 11 | Gifts & Hospitality |[ ]
| 12 | Dispensations |[ ]

# Section 4: What are you complaining about?

Please provide us with as much information as you can about your complaint to help us decide whether or not it should be investigated. Include the date and details of the alleged misconduct, and any information that supports the allegation.

|  | **Information of complaint** |
| --- | --- |
| **WHY are you complaining?** – please explain your complaint, what happened, how you felt about it and why you think it was/is a breach of the code, unacceptable and/or inappropriate.  |  |
| **WHAT did they do?** - If it relates to language or behaviour, write down exactly what was said / done and what made it unacceptable to you |  |
| **WHEN did this take place?** Be specific on the dates and times  |  |
| **WHERE?** - be specific where it all took place - give the address and also the details of the venue - was it in a meeting room/corridor/in the street/in the pub etc |  |
| **WITNESS** - who else was there and heard what went on - you need to name the persons who can potentially be asked questions about the incident(s)  |  |
| **OTHER** – any other information you would like considered |  |

|  |
| --- |
| You can continue on a separate sheet if there is not enough space on this form. |

# Section 5: Evidence (if this applies)

It is essential that you give evidence to support your complaint, otherwise the Monitoring Officer may not be able to decide if what you say should be investigated.

Please attach copies of any correspondence, documents, names and contact details of witnesses, and any other evidence that you feel is relevant to your complaint. Please avoid sending us large amounts of background information that only relate indirectly to your complaint.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Please list the documents you have enclosed:** |
| **1.** |  |
| **2.** |  |
| **3.** |  |
| **4.** |  |
| **5.** |  |

# Section 6: Previous complaint

To your knowledge has a Code of Conduct complaint about this issue previously been submitted?

|  |
| --- |
|[ ]  **YES** |
|[ ]  **NO** |

# Section 7: Possible remedy

Whilst we are unable to acknowledging that your complaint is justified at this stage, it would help with the assessment of your complaint to know what your desired outcome might be. If you feel able to provide this information please indicate the remedy or remedies you are looking for or hoping to achieve by submitting this complaint.

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|  |

# Section 8: Confidential information (only complete this section if you are requesting that your identity is kept anonymous)

In the interests of fairness and natural justice, we believe councillors who are complained about have a right to know who has made the complaint. We also believe that they have a right to be provided with a copy of that complaint.

Your identity will normally be disclosed to the councillor concerned unless you have good reason to request the withholding of this information. Such reasons, in exceptional circumstances, might involve one or more of the following:

|  |
| --- |
| Please tick the appropriate box if you consider there are grounds for keeping your complaint anonymous  |

|  |
| --- |
| Clear risk of physical harm if identity is disclosed  |[ ]
| Possible consequence to employment status  |[ ]
| Reasonable fear of intimidation or victimisation  |[ ]
| Medical condition  |[ ]

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide details of why you believe we should withhold your name and/or details of your complaint: |
|  |

The Monitoring Officer will consider the request for identity to be withheld alongside the substance of your complaint. We will then contact you with the decision. If your request for confidentiality is not granted, we will usually allow you the option of withdrawing your complaint.

However, it is important to understand that in certain exceptional circumstances where the matter complained about is very serious, we can proceed with an investigation or other action and disclose your name even if you have expressly asked us not to.

1. Insert Parish Council name [↑](#footnote-ref-1)