ERRATUM

Local Government Standards Panel Annual Report 2017-18

Page 11 - Findings
The number of findings that a breach occurred is incorrect.
A complete and correct Page 11 is attached for insertion.

Page 12 – Decisions
The error from page 11 is repeated on page 12, which affects the number of sanctions imposed.
A complete and correct page 12 is attached for insertion.

Page 14 – Table 4
This table illustrates the figures referred to on page 12 and is therefore incorrect.
A complete and correct page 12 is attached for insertion.
Standards Panel meeting attendance 2017-18

Table 2: Standards Panel attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel member</th>
<th>Meeting attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Sheryl Siekierka</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mark Beecroft</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Paul Kelly</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Rebecca Aubrey</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Merranie Strauss</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Rachel Yates</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Findings and decisions

Findings

Under section 5.110(2) the Standards Panel is required to make a finding as to whether the alleged breach occurred. Under section 5.110(3A) the Standards Panel can refuse to deal with a complaint if it is satisfied that the complaint is frivolous, trivial, vexatious, misconceived or without substance.

In relation to the 67 complaints finalised in 2017-18, the Standards Panel:

- Made 18 findings that a breach occurred.
- Made 17 findings of no breach.
- Refused to deal with 15 complaints.

One of the breach findings was in response to four complaints about a single incident. Three complaints were not submitted to the Standards Panel as they were non-compliant, one was withdrawn and 10 were suspended as the respondent was no longer an elected member and therefore the Standards Panel did not have the jurisdiction to deal with the complaint.
The Standards Panel had also considered a further four complaints that had not been finalised prior to the end of the financial year. In relation to these complaints, the Standards Panel has made two findings of a breach and two findings of no breach.

**Decisions**

Under section 5.110(6) of the Act, the Standards Panel can deal with a minor breach by:

- Dismissing the complaint under section 5.110(6)(a) because no sanction was warranted.
- Ordering a sanction under section 5.110(6)(b).
- Ordering a combination of sanctions under section 5.110(6)(c).

Of the 18 minor breaches found in 2017-18, the Standards Panel dismissed two complaints and one complaint process was suspended as the person ceased to be an elected member. The Standards Panel dealt with the remaining 15 complaints by ordering sanctions. These sanctions included:

- Seven orders that the elected member make a public apology.
- Six orders that the elected member undertake training
- One order that the elected member be publicly censured
- One order that the elected member be publicly censured and undertake training.

The Department notes that parties to a complaint can seek a review of the Standards Panel’s decisions by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) within 28 days of notification. The matters reported here may be subject to review by the SAT and findings or decisions may be overturned.