

REDLAND CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Conduct Register – July 2022 – June 2023

Reference	Date of Complaint	Name of Councillor ¹	Summary of Complaint	Date of Decision	Decision	Reason for dismissal Section 150DZ	Reason for decision Section 150DY/150AQ	Decision Maker
C/23/00285	21/05/23		It was alleged a Councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct when commenting on a resident's social media post.	31/05/23	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (the Act) as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>The OIA noted that the Councillor used the Councillor's personal social media account and that the post did not relate to the Councillor's role with Council.</p> <p>The conduct was not sufficiently connected to the Councillor's role as a Councillor to amount to inappropriate conduct or misconduct within the meaning of the Act.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/23/00251 C/23/00253	09/05/23		<p>It was alleged that:</p> <p>Councillor 'A' misled the public and an investigator about a series of events involving the conduct of another Councillor.</p> <p>Councillor 'A' made false statements to the public about withdrawing a matter.</p> <p>Councillor 'B' failed to declare a conflict of interest when Council was dealing with another Councillor's suspected inappropriate conduct matter.</p>	31/05/23	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis that the complaint did not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>Enquiries by the OIA found that the Councillor A's comments in a public forum were not demonstrably false and/or misleading.</p> <p>Enquiries by the OIA found that the Councillor A's further comments in a public forum were not demonstrably false and/or misleading.</p> <p>Councillor B was not a complainant, nor were they a witness to the relevant suspected inappropriate conduct investigation. They were not considered to have a declarable conflict of interest in the relevant matter.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/23/00195	07/07/22 & 28/03/23		<p>It was alleged that a Councillor:</p> <p>(1) caused reputational damage to Redland City Council, the CEO and staff by going to the media after the conduct of a Councillor became a highly topical public matter.</p> <p>(2) colluded to lodge a complaint to police about a threatening email received from a Councillor, then made false comments in the media about the matter</p>	04/04/23	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>The Councillor was entitled to have a view on a matter which was in the public arena, and to express it, including in the media; Councillors are not restricted from reporting matters to police and no public commentary was made about this matter by the Councillor</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor

¹ Only to be included if the local government or conduct tribunal decided that the Councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct or misconduct, or where the Councillor agrees to their name being included in the register (section 150DY(3) *Local Government Act 2009*)

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			to cause reputational damage to a Councillor.					
C/23/00194	07/07/22 & 28/03/23		<p>It was alleged that a Councillor:</p> <p>(1) caused reputational damage to Redland City Council, the CEO and staff by going to the media after the conduct of a Councillor became a highly topical public matter.</p> <p>(2) colluded to lodge a complaint to police about a threatening email received from a Councillor, then made false comments in the media about the matter to cause reputational damage to a Councillor.</p> <p>(3) forwarded an internal email to an external party in breach of Council policies.</p> <p>(4) by going to the media, created community backlash against a Councillor that was unfair and prejudiced any future legal proceedings for a number of matters being considered in different jurisdictions.</p> <p>(5) ran a 'trial-by-media' campaign against Councillors who were in or seen to be in support of a Councillor whose conduct was the subject of significant media attention.</p>	04/04/23	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>The Councillor was entitled to have a view on a matter which was in the public arena, and to express it, including in the media; Councillors are not restricted from reporting matters to police; on the facts of this case forwarding the internal email to an external party did not come within the definition of misconduct or inappropriate conduct, there is no evidence that the Councillor supplied the media with the identity of a Councillor. At the relevant time this information was in the possession of multiple parties. There is no legislative requirement on parties to complaints maintaining confidentiality although it is often requested by law enforcement agencies in multiple jurisdictions.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/23/00142	5/03/23		It was alleged that in a conversation with a member of the public, a Councillor was aggressive and made disparaging remarks about another Councillor, a member of parliament, a community group and a local businessperson.	16/03/23	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (the Act) as further dealing with the complaint was not a justifiable use of resources. There was no third-party witness to the alleged conduct to provide an independent recollection of what occurred or to reconcile any potential conflicting versions of events.		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/23/00070	6/02/23		It is alleged a Councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct when posting on social media about another elected official's remuneration.	14/02/23	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (the Act) as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct within the meaning of the Act.		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						<p>The post did not relate to a local government matter.</p> <p>It is not appropriate to deal with public exchanges between elected officials from different levels of government, which are inherently political in nature, as Councillor conduct.</p>		
C/23/00074	8/02/23		It was alleged that a Councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct in council workshops and spoke inappropriately to another Councillor in a Council office.	9/02/23	No further action		The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b) (iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00474	11/07/22		It was alleged that a Councillor released information that they knew or ought reasonably to have known was information that was confidential to the local government.	25/01/23	No further action		<p>Following an investigation, the OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (the Act) on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>In making the decision, the OIA noted that there was a dispute about whether the Councillor had been told that information was confidential and other relevant factual circumstances. On the evidence that was able to be obtained on this issue the OIA was not satisfied that further dealing with this matter was a justifiable use of resources.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/19/00777	12/09/19		It is alleged that on 7 November 2018, a Councillor engaged in misconduct as defined in section 176(3)(b)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (the Act), by breaching the trust placed in them as a Councillor when, having a material personal interest in a matter, they influenced or attempted to influence a local government employee who was authorised to decide or otherwise deal with the matter to do so in a particular way, which contravened section 175(3) of the Act and the conduct was therefore inconsistent with the local government principle requiring 'ethical and legal behaviour of Councillors and local government employees'.	16/01/23	Not Sustained		The Tribunal has determined, on the balance of probabilities, that the allegation that on 7 November 2018, a Councillor of Redland City Council, engaged in misconduct as defined in section 176(3)(b)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (the Act), by breaching the trust placed in them as a Councillor when, having a material personal interest in a matter, they influenced or attempted to influence a local government employee who was authorised to decide or otherwise deal with the matter to do so in a particular way, which contravened section 175(3) of the Act and was therefore inconsistent with the local government principle requiring 'ethical and legal behaviour of Councillors and local government employees' has not been sustained.	Councillor Conduct Tribunal
C/22/00867	5/12/22		It was alleged a councillor had engaged in inappropriate conduct in addressing the concerns of a resident who had an ongoing dispute with Council over a property matter.	19/12/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct by a councillor.		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						Enquiries by the OIA identified that the councillor had taken positive steps over an extended period of time to assist residents in the relevant area. The councillor had correctly raised issues with the operational arm of the Council.		
C/22/00872	07/12/22		It was alleged a Councillor acted in a way that could be inappropriate conduct or misconduct in order to build numbers for a vote relating to another Councillor.	15/12/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>Councillor conduct complaints must be supported by enough evidence to ground a belief that the Councillor may have engaged in inappropriate conduct or misconduct. Complaints must be based on more than second-hand accounts and uncorroborated assumptions about a Councillor's motivation.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00844	25/11/22		It was alleged a Councillor used their position to drive a specific outcome from a community consultation process and made comments on a private Facebook page which were dismissive of other opinions.	9/12/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act</i> [the Act] as comments from the Councillor did not reach the threshold of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>The Councillor raised awareness of the survey and responded to alternative opinions in an appropriate manner.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00803	26/10/22		A Councillor was alleged to have failed to declare a declarable conflict of interest in the Council General Meeting on 12 October 2022.	18/11/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as it was deemed an unjustifiable use of resources to further deal with the matter. The Councillor's alleged interest in the matter was too contingent on other circumstances to raise a clear breach.</p> <p>However, the Councillor has been informed that if circumstances changed a clear conflict of interest may crystallise.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00509 C/22/00539 C/22/00551 C/22/00546	20/07/22		A Councillor was alleged to have breached Council Meeting Standing Orders, specifically section 6.11.5, in relation to Agenda Item 10 – Petitions and Presentations at the General Meeting of Council.	16/11/22	Not Inappropriate Conduct		<p>Under section 150AG (1)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>, Council decided that the failure of the subject Councillor to fully read and state the nature of Petitions at the General Meeting of Council, does not amount to inappropriate conduct but rather a minor technical breach of Council Meeting Standing Orders.</p> <p>Council noted that there is currently a review of Council Meeting Standing Orders for consistency with the State Government Department of</p>	Redland City Council

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							Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, Model Meeting Procedures for Local Government or Best Practice Standing Orders.	
C/22/00802	26/10/22		It was alleged a Councillor breached the reimbursement policy by claiming vehicle expenses when their vehicle was unregistered.	11/11/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the Local Government Act 2009 [the Act] on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>It appears the failure to register the vehicle was an oversight rather than a deliberate act.</p> <p>Further, enquiries with Council and a review of the reimbursement policy concluded that the conduct technically isn't a breach of the policy. Dealing further with this matter would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00804 C/22/00809	27/10/22		It was alleged a Councillor behaved improperly and bullied other Councillors during a Council meeting.	08/11/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the Local Government Act 2009 (the Act) as the alleged conduct did not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>The OIA viewed the relevant meeting and did not find that the Councillor had breached the Act or meeting procedures.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00768	10/10/22		<p>It was alleged a Councillor breached the Code of Conduct for Councillors in Queensland when they made comments on social media about fellow Councillors.</p> <p>Further, it was alleged the Councillor had an inappropriate conversation with a Council employee.</p>	28/10/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the Local Government Act 2009 [the Act] on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>The Councillor was expressing a personal view and the comments did not reach the threshold to breach the code of conduct.</p> <p>Further, there was a discrepancy in accounts of the alleged conversation.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00766	10/10/22		It was alleged a Councillor breached the Code of Conduct for Councillors in Queensland when they made comments on social media about fellow Councillors.	28/10/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the Local Government Act 2009 [the Act] on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>The Councillor was expressing a personal view and the comments did not breach the code of conduct.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00703	13/09/22		It was alleged that a Councillor breached	04/10/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section		Office of the

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			the code of conduct by not replying to an email for over two years.			150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> . As the concerns related to a matter which was subject to legal dispute between the complainant and Council, it would not have been appropriate for the Councillor to engage on the subject. The complainant had a contact point within council to deal with this issue; noting concerns could be escalated to the CEO or Ombudsman if appropriate.		Independent Assessor
C/22/00629	20/08/22		It is alleged a Councillor has engaged in misconduct by releasing information on social media that was confidential to Council, and false and misleading about a Council project.	16/09/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct. The OIA obtained information from Council relating to the project which contained a number of previously uncoded project costs which were not part of the original cost of the project. The OIA also noted that the projected cost increases for the project had been reported in the media prior to the Councillor's post.		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00674	31/08/22		It was alleged that a Councillor made inaccurate statements in the media and spoke against Councillors who voted against a motion.	13/09/22	No further action		The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct. The comments made by the Councillor were not inaccurate.	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00608	17/08/22		It is alleged a councillor engaged in misconduct when the councillor commented in the media about conduct matters that may come before council for decisions.	08/09/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as the conduct did not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct or go so far as to constitute influence of a decision-maker.		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00644	25/08/22		It was alleged a councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct and misconduct on a number of occasions.	06/09/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct within the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> . The concerns raised were either not within jurisdiction, previously assessed or currently going through the OIA's legal process.		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00631	20/08/22		It was alleged a Councillor made misleading comments about why they voted against a report.	01/09/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						<p>inappropriate conduct or misconduct within the meaning of the Act.</p> <p>The comments were not considered to be misleading and it is a Councillor's right to vote in support or against any motion.</p>		
C/22/00610 C/22/00611 C/22/00612 C/22/00613 C/22/00614	17/08/22		It is alleged five Councillors engaged in misconduct when they voted against a Council officer's report on a matter before Council.	31/08/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>It is not considered to be a Councillor conduct matter if a Councillor exercises their vote in relation to a resolution before Council unless, for example, the Councillor has an undeclared conflict of interest in the matter being considered.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00554	02/08/22		It was alleged a Councillor made unsubstantiated allegations in a radio interview which brought council's reputation into disrepute.	22/08/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>While the code of conduct requires that councillors ensure that their conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of council; the code of conduct must be read in conjunction with the local government principles and the purpose of the Act – to provide for a system of local government which is accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00555	02/08/22		It was alleged a Councillor made unsubstantiated allegations in a radio interview which brought council and other councillor's reputations into disrepute.	15/08/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> [the Act] on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>While the code of conduct requires that councillors ensure that their conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of council; the code of conduct must be read in conjunction with the local government principles and the purpose of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> – to provide for a system of local government which is accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/21/00580	25/08/21		That a Councillor engaged in misconduct by attempting to influence or influencing Council employees who were	16/08/22	No further action		After a full investigation into the allegation, the OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act</i>	Office of the Independent Assessor

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			participating in a decision of Council concerning arrangements affording Council access to land in which the Councillor had a financial interest.				<p>2009 on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>Investigators reviewed electronic communications, Council records, and interviewed involved staff as a part of the investigation. No contact between the Councillor and any decision maker, via proxy or otherwise, was identified or disclosed.</p> <p>An examination of the decision-making process showed that it was considered, logical, and reflective of the context and circumstances. The decision did not benefit the Councillor beyond what any other landholder in similar circumstances would have been.</p>	
C/22/00386 C/22/00400	08/08/22		It is alleged a Councillor threatened to take reprisal action against another Councillor if a complaint was made to the OIA. It is alleged a Councillor directed a Council officer to advise a Councillor to make a complaint.	12/08/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b) (iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>The OIA reviewed the email exchange and did not consider that the Councillor sought to take reprisal action but was explaining the Councillor's potential defence if a complaint was made.</p> <p>The OIA also did not consider that the Councillor directed a Council officer to advise another Councillor to make a complaint based on the email exchange.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00527	25/07/22		<p>It was alleged a Councillor attempted to mislead other Councillors during a meeting of Council.</p> <p>It was further alleged that when the Councillor left the meeting after declaring a conflict of interest, he did not leave the immediate area of the Chamber where they were able to listen.</p>	12/08/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as further dealing with this matter would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>There was no evidence there was an attempt to mislead other Councillors and the Councillor voluntarily left the meeting after it was established there was no conflict of interest.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00522	22/07/22		It was alleged that a Councillor dissented with a majority decision in the media and failed to clearly state if they were speaking on behalf of Council or expressing personal views.	12/08/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as the alleged conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>The Councillor did not dissent with the decision of Council and the minutes show the Councillor supported the decision.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						Broader comments made by the Councillor about environmental protections were expressed in a manner that indicated their own personal view.		
C/22/00512	21/07/22		It was alleged a Councillor made public comments which adversely affected the reputation of Council, diminished Council's standing, authority and dignity.	04/08/22	Dismissed	<p>The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) as the conduct was not considered to reach the threshold of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>While the Code of Conduct requires that Councillors ensure that their conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of Council; the provisions of the Code of Conduct are not intended to prevent Councillors making comment on matters already in the media and of public interest.</p> <p>The code of conduct must be read in conjunction with the local government principles and the purpose of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>; to provide for a system of local government which is accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00536 C/22/00537 C/22/00538	29/07/22		It is alleged that Councillors of the Redlands City Council have misled the public regarding a pending court appearance by Mayor Williams during a recent meeting/s. It is alleged that this conduct directly and adversely impacted the reputations of others.	03/08/22	No further action		The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00489	16/07/22		It was alleged a Councillor organised a protest which misled the public and caused reputational damage to Council and Councillors.	03/08/22	No further action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(iii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that further investigation of the alleged conduct would not be a justifiable use of resources.</p> <p>While some of the Councillor's comments have impacted adversely on Council employees, the Councillor's public comments and actions related primarily to a matter which was already in the public arena and rightfully a matter of public interest.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00406	26/06/22		It was alleged a Councillor made unsubstantiated allegations of "booze parties" in a radio interview which brought Council's reputation into disrepute.	28/07/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as further dealing with the matter would be an unjustifiable use of resources.		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						While references to “booze parties” at Redland City Council, had the capacity to create an incorrect impression and unfairly impact on Council staff and some other Councillors, it is also established that since 2021 some Councillors have had regular drinks following ordinary Council meetings. These gatherings were organised by Councillors, attended by some Councillors only, in a location not accessible to Council officers and alcohol consumed was supplied by Councillors.		
C/22/00412 C/22/00413 C/22/00414 C/22/00415 C/22/00416	28/06/22		It was alleged that a number of Councillors of the Redland City Council engaged in inappropriate conduct by drinking together after the monthly general meetings. This is said to have occurred on occasions in the Council building in an area assigned to Councillors.	27/07/22	No further action		<p>Interviews with all Redland City Councillors (with the exception of the Mayor) were considered as part of this assessment.</p> <p>No further action was taken pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>Since 2021 some Councillors have engaged in regular gatherings after ordinary Council meetings where alcohol has been consumed.</p> <p>These gatherings were organised by Councillors, attended by some Councillors only, in a location not accessible to Council officers and alcohol consumed was supplied by Councillors.</p> <p>The investigation did not identify that the consumption of alcohol in Council premises following general meetings had resulted in any Councillor being impaired or otherwise unable to perform their duties (as per behavioural standard 1.5 of the Councillor Code of Conduct).</p> <p>Current Council policy regarding alcohol provides a clear and accountable framework, but only applies to Council staff.</p> <p>It has been recommended that Council develop an agreed policy that applies to Councillors.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00435 C/22/00436 C/22/00437	01/07/22		It was alleged that a number of Councillors of the Redland City Council have engaged in inappropriate conduct on the basis that they have stored and consumed alcohol on Council premises.	27/07/22	No further action		<p>Interviews with all Redland City Councillors (with the exception of the Mayor) were considered as part of this assessment.</p> <p>No further action was taken pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor

REDLAND CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Conduct Register – July 2022 – June 2023

Reference	Date of Complaint	Name of Councillor ¹	Summary of Complaint	Date of Decision	Decision	Reason for dismissal Section 150DZ	Reason for decision Section 150DY/150AQ	Decision Maker
			Specifically, that on 16 March 2022 after a general meeting that certain Councillors acted in a fashion that was indicative of them being affected by alcohol.				<p>basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>Since 2021 some Councillors have engaged in regular gatherings after ordinary Council meetings where some alcohol has been consumed.</p> <p>These gatherings were organised by Councillors, attended by some Councillors only, in a location not accessible to Council officers and alcohol consumed was supplied by Councillors.</p> <p>No Councillor interviewed (including Councillors who did not participate) said that they had seen another Councillor's behaviour or capacity to perform their responsibilities as a Councillor impaired by alcohol in circumstances that may put them or others at risk while performing their duties. (As per code of conduct behavioural standard 1.5)</p> <p>In relation to the incident on 16 March 2022; it is not possible to determine whether the behaviour described was the result of the consumption of alcohol.</p> <p>Current Council policy regarding alcohol provides a clear and accountable framework, but only applies to Council staff.</p> <p>It has been recommended that Council develop an agreed policy that applies to Councillors.</p>	
C/22/00454 C/22/00455 C/22/00456 C/22/00457 C/22/00458 C/22/00459 C/22/00460 C/22/00461 C/22/00462 C/22/00463 C/22/00464	06/07/22		It was alleged that all Councillors of the Redland City Council engaged in inappropriate conduct on the basis that on 23 June 2022 they consumed alcohol with Mayor Williams in the offices of the Redland City Council, prior to Mayor Williams being involved in a traffic incident that evening. This conduct is said to have involved all Councillors of the Redland City Council.	27/07/22	Dismissed	<p>This matter was dismissed pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that the conduct of Councillors (other than the Mayor) did not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>This matter was dismissed pursuant to section 150X(a)(ii) on the basis that the conduct of Councillors (other than the Mayor) did not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>Several Councillors had consumed alcohol on Council premises on 23 June 2022 as part of a sanctioned Council event.</p>		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						<p>The investigation did not identify that the consumption of alcohol in Council premises in these circumstances by some Councillors had resulted in the named Councillors being impaired or otherwise unable to perform their duties within the meaning of behavioural standard 1.5 of the Councillor Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Current Council policy regarding alcohol provides a clear and accountable framework, but only applies to Council staff.</p> <p>It has been recommended that Council develop an agreed policy that applies to Councillors.</p>		
C/22/00384	16/06/22		It is alleged that a Councillor failed to advise the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a change to the Councillor's Register of Interests (ROI) as required under section 201B of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> .	21/07/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) as The Councillor's ROI has subsequently been amended. The OIA also noted the ROI was not up to date for a certain period, however in this instance it was a matter of not removing an interest rather than failing to declare an interest. Further dealing with this matter was not considered a justifiable use of resources in these circumstances.		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00221	13/04/22	Cr Wendy Boglary	On 13 April 2022, Councillor Wendy Boglary self-referred to the OIA for alleged inappropriate conduct due to sending Council related material to her personal email address.	20/07/22	Inappropriate Conduct		<p>In accordance with section 150K(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>, the conduct of a Councillor is inappropriate conduct if the conduct contravenes a behavioural standard or a policy, procedure or resolution of the local government.</p> <p>Redland City Council, determined, on the balance of probabilities, that Councillor Wendy Boglary engaged in inappropriate conduct by breaching Standards of Behaviour 1.3 of the Code of Conduct of Councillors in Queensland which requires Councillors to use only official Council electronic communication accounts when conducting Council business.</p>	Redland City Council
C/22/00220	13/04/22	Cr Tracey Huges	On 13 April 2022, Councillor Tracey Huges self-referred to the OIA for alleged inappropriate conduct due to sending Council related material to her personal email address.	20/07/22	Inappropriate Conduct		<p>In accordance with section 150K(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>, the conduct of a Councillor is inappropriate conduct if the conduct contravenes a behavioural standard or a policy, procedure or resolution of the local government</p> <p>Redland City Council, determined, on the balance of probabilities, that Councillor Tracey Huges engaged in inappropriate conduct by breaching Standards of Behaviour 1.3 of the Code of Conduct of Councillors in Queensland which requires</p>	Redland City Council

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							Councillors to use only official Council electronic communication accounts when conducting Council business.	
C/22/00217	11/04/22	Cr Adelia Berridge	On 11 April 2022, Councillor Adelia Berridge self-referred to the OIA for alleged inappropriate conduct due to sending Council related material to her personal email address.	20/07/22	Inappropriate Conduct		In accordance with section 150K(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> , the conduct of a Councillor is inappropriate conduct if the conduct contravenes a behavioural standard or a policy, procedure or resolution of the local government. Redland City Council, determined, on the balance of probabilities, that Councillor Adelia Berridge engaged in inappropriate conduct by breaching Standards of Behaviour 1.3 of the Code of Conduct of Councillors in Queensland which requires Councillors to use only official Council electronic communication accounts when conducting Council business.	Redland City Council
C/22/00396	14/07/22		It was alleged a Councillor engaged in misconduct by releasing confidential information from a briefing session which was then published in a media article.	20/07/22	No Further Action		The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that the information obtained does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct. The news article contained publicly available information from 2020.	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00394	20/06/22		It is alleged a Councillor engaged in misconduct by failing to declare a declarable conflict of interest in a particular matter.	20/07/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that further dealing with the complaint would be an unjustifiable use of resources. It was considered that the potential conflict of interest was borderline in nature and the OIA also took into account the present drafting of section 150EQ which requires proof that a Councillor is “aware” that they have a conflict of interest in relation to a matter before the obligation to declare arises.		Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00444	04/07/22		It is alleged a Councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct when responding to a resident’s comments on social media.	20/07/22	Dismissed	The OIA dismissed this matter pursuant to section 150X(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> as further dealing with the conduct was not a justifiable use of resources. The comments were considered borderline and the OIA took into account that following the resident expressing their concerns, the		Office of the Independent Assessor

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						Councillor immediately deleted the comment in question.		
C/22/00410	27/6/22		A Councillor was alleged to have divulged confidential information to a journalist that was shared in confidence during a meeting.	13/07/22	No Further Action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b)(i) of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that the conduct does not raise a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate conduct or misconduct.</p> <p>While Councillors were requested to keep the information confidential, the information did not have the character to which confidentiality would ordinarily attach.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor
C/22/00395	20/6/22		It is alleged a Councillor engaged in inappropriate conduct when the Councillor attended a Councillor briefing session and made disparaging comments about Councillors who were not present.	07/07/22	No Further Action		<p>The OIA decided to take no further action pursuant to section 150Y(b) (iii)] of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> on the basis that taking further action would be an unjustifiable use of resources.</p> <p>The OIA made enquires with an independent witness who did not confirm that the Councillor had made the comments.</p>	Office of the Independent Assessor