

2022 Annual Report



Ethics Committee

S+SNZ COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Date: Thursday 3 November 2022

Subject: Ethics Committee Report for Period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

Report from: Malcolm Hanrahan (Chair, Ethics Committee)

Membership

1. After providing some 12 years' service to the Committee, Mike Morris completed his term at the end of March.
2. Four new members were appointed to the Committee, bringing the total membership to eight. The membership was increased to provide opportunity for the Committee to work on matters outside of complaints. The increased membership provides greater overall robustness to the Committee.
3. The Committee at 30 June 2022 comprised the following members:
 - Malcolm Hanrahan (Canterbury)

- Nicole Alexander (Napier)
 - Chris Hopper (Canterbury)
 - Rick O’Flaherty (Auckland)
 - Fraser Jopson (Otago) – new member
 - Gregory Mohacsi (Auckland) – new member
 - Daniel Wiederkehr (Auckland) – new member
 - Neil Bates (Nelson) – new member
4. Administrative and processing support was provided by Jan Lawrence (National Operations Manager). Jan is the main point of contact for complainants and members who are the subject of a complaint.

Meetings

5. Meetings are held every two months. The Committee has met six times during the year

Complaint Metrics

6. Four complaints from the previous year were closed out.
7. Three new complaints were received with the Committee closing out the seven complaints in the period.
8. A number of enquires, that did not proceed to a formal complaint, were dealt with by Jan Lawrence.

Nature of Complaints

9. Features of the complaints that were closed in the period included:
- One complaint related to plagiarism of a planning report
 - One complaint related to an ambiguity over the identification of a boundary
 - One complaint related to misunderstanding of what was being requested by the surveyor
 - Others were of a general nature relating to how surveyors acted or didn’t act. A couple were associated with fees.
10. The committee found no prima facie case had been established on any of the complaints. One of the complaints initiated in the previous year had a recommendation for a formal reprimand from Council.

Other Work

11. The Committee has been working with Ron Fone who has been reviewing the Code of Conduct Policy and the Complaints Process Review. Ron’s work has been presented to Council and is waiting formal approval prior to proceeding to implement.
12. Using the work Ron has completed, the Committee is looking to address several aspects, including providing better initial and more informative information to complainants. Doing so will

assist in the quality and nature of complaints received and it will assist in the overall complainant expectations.

Recommendation

13. I recommend that Council **note** the contents of this report.

14.

Malcolm Hanrahan

Chair, Ethics Committee