



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Officer Delegated Decision

20 November 2024

Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and
s151 Officer

Approve payment to Wilkin Chapman Solicitors for Councillor Code of Conduct Investigation work

To provide financial support for costs associated with external legal work.

Decision made by:	Richard Wyles – Deputy Chief Executive & s151 Officer
Decision:	To approve the funding of £60,000.00 to Wilkin Chapman Solicitors for legal work relating to Investigations of Councillor Code of Conduct Complaints
Date:	20 November 2024
Public or Exempt:	Public
Reasons for exemption:	N/A
Details of delegation:	The Councils Constitution (Part 3c – Responsibility for Functions) provides the Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer with the necessary authority to take this decision

Contact

Debbie Mewes, Governance Support Team Leader



01476 406080



Debbie.mewes@southkesteven.gov.uk

1 The Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To approve funds of £60,000.00 to Wilkin Chapman Solicitors to cover costs for work undertaken on behalf of the Council in relation to Councillor Code of Conduct investigations.
- 1.2 Code of conduct investigations were outsourced to Wilkin & Chapman Solicitors due to volume and complexity of the work.

2 Options Considered

- 2.1 Legal Services Lincolnshire were first approached to carry out the work on behalf of the Council but were unable to deal with the sheer volume of the work at the time.
- 2.2 The Council's current Legal budget has insufficient funds available to meet these unexpected costs.

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 This is an unbudgeted cost and the Council's s151 Officer will be undertaking a review of General Fund revenue budgets in order to vire the necessary amount to cover these unbudgeted costs.

Financial Implications reviewed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer

4 Legal and Governance Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant Legal and Governance implications, arising from this decision.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Graham Watts Monitoring Officer

Signed by: Richard Wyles

Date: 20 November 2024
