

**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
 STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**Application for a Dispensation to the Standards Committee under Section 2 of
 the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

Name of Councillor	Kathryn McCaffer
Address	[REDACTED]
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Plymouth Ward Vale of Glamorgan Council
Nature of Dispensation sought	Dispensation to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings where issues are raised (including budgets) in respect of Victoria Primary School, as my children attend the school.
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	23 January 2020
Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period. (N.B. All dispensations granted expire at the next Council elections.)	Until elections in 2022
Level of dispensation sought (i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)	<p>Dispensation to Speak, Vote and Remain in meetings where issues are raised (including budgets) are considered (as I am a Cabinet member of the Council and responsible for Financial decisions), relating to the Victoria Primary School budget, albeit it is rare that this could occur (it has never been the case thus far).</p> <p>However, when considering school budgets generically, by implication any decision could affect any school (including Victoria Primary School.)</p> <p>I also attend Scrutiny committees where these budgets could be and often are discussed and</p>

	<p>therefore, I am seeking this dispensation because I do not consider my connection with the school is so tenuous to be irrelevant.</p> <p>Also at Cabinet and Council when setting budgets all aspects of the council are considered and again this by implication could refer to any school.</p> <p>I respectfully request this dispensation.</p>
<p>Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted (See (a) to (j) overleaf)</p>	<p>I refer you to the issues raised below but specifically (d), (e), (f) & (i)</p> <p>The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 specifies that the Council's Standards Committee may grant dispensations under Section 81(4) of the Local Government Act 2000 where:</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>the nature of the Member's interest is such that the Member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the Council's business;</p> <p><i>I consider that being a parent of a child in any school would arguably not be considered to be a prejudicial interest and dispensation in this instance would not damage public confidence. I would assume this would apply to many members of the council who have children who attend Vale of Glamorgan Council Schools.</i></p> <p>(e)</p> <p>the interest is common to the Member and a significant proportion of the general public;</p> <p><i>I consider this to be relevant as a significant number of people have children or grandchildren attending Vale of Glamorgan Council Schools.</i></p> <p>(f)</p> <p>the participation of the Member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the</p>

	<p>Member's particular role or expertise;</p> <p><i>As a member of this Council for 2 years and the experience and positions I have and currently hold, I consider that this qualifies me for an dispensation.</i></p> <p>(i)</p> <p>it appears to the Standards Committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the Council that the disability should be removed; or</p> <p><i>I consider that as I am a Cabinet member of the Council I consider that this reference is particularly relevant.</i></p> <p><i>In fact I consider this reference to be relevant to any member of the Council who has and child / grandchild attending Vale of Glamorgan Council Schools.</i></p>
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<p>Details of the Prejudicial Interest</p>	<p>My children attend Victoria Primary School</p>
<p>Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. <i>Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member</i>)</p>	<p>Ward Councillor for Plymouth Ward Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture</p>
<p>Reason(s) to support the application and why you consider the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation</p> <p><i>(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)</i></p>	<p>I believe that I have covered this above, but in summary, as my children are pupils in a school and is no different to any other child attending any school in the Vale of Glamorgan and their attendance has no relevance on any aspect of my work as a cabinet member of the Council or indeed as a Councillor.</p>

SIGNED:K McCaffer.....

DATED: 22nd January 2020

Each section of the form MUST be fully completed.

(N.B. If you are submitting your application form electronically, without a signature, please give written permission for the receiving officer to sign the application form on your behalf. **Failure to do this will result in the application being deemed incomplete and returned to the applicant.)**

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER (IF APPROPRIATE):

*Please return completed form to:
Democratic and Scrutiny Services, Directorate of Resources, Room 26, 1st Floor,
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU*

Circumstances When A Standards Committee May Grant Dispensations

The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 specifies that the Council's Standards Committee may grant dispensations under Section 81(4) of the Local Government Act 2000 where:

- (a) no fewer than half of the Members of the Council or of a committee of the Council (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;
- (b) no fewer than half of the Members of the Executive of the Council (i.e. Leader and Cabinet) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;
- (c) Members' inability to participate would upset the political balance of the Council, or any of its committees by which the business is to be considered, to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;
- (d) the nature of the Member's interest is such that the Member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the Council's business;
- (e) the interest is common to the Member and a significant proportion of the general public;
- (f) the participation of the Member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the Member's particular role or expertise;
- (g) the registerable interest relates to business, which is to be considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Council, and the Member's interest is not a pecuniary/financial interest;
- (h) the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the Member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the Council and the Member has no other interest in that business, provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business;
- (i) it appears to the Standards Committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the Council that the disability should be removed; or
- (j) it appears to the Standards Committee to be otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation. [If this circumstance is relied upon it will be required to be reviewed on a 12 month basis – Local Government (Standards Committees, Investigations, Dispensations and Referral) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (3(1A))]