

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Meeting, 23rd June, 2022.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The Meeting recording is available [here](#).

Present: P. Hallett, R. Hendicott, G. Watkins (Independent Members) and Councillors R.M. Birch, J.E. Charles and C.P. Franks (Vale of Glamorgan Council).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR –

RESOLVED – T H A T R. Hendicott be appointed Chair for the remainder of the Municipal year.

AGENDA ITEM 2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR –

RESOLVED – T H A T L. Tinsley be appointed Vice – Chair for the remainder of the Municipal year.

AGENDA ITEM 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from R. Alexander and L. Tinsley.

AGENDA ITEM 4. MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March, 2022 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

AGENDA ITEM 6. APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T dispensations as set out in the schedule below be granted up to the date of the next Local Government Elections:

Member Requesting Dispensation	Paragraph(s) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 Under Which Dispensation is Granted and as applied for	Decision
Councillor J. Aviet	(a), (c), (d), (e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings
Councillor B. Brooks	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town and Council meetings.
Councillor J.E. Charles	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan's re-shaping programme at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council meetings.
Councillor P. Drake	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings.
Councillor E.J. Goodjohn	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings.

Councillor E. Goodjohn	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings.
Councillor H.C. Hamilton	(d), (e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on matters relating to the review of Councils employment employee terms and conditions in view of family members being employed by the authority.
Councillor S.M. Hanks	(c) and (d)	Dispensation to speak and vote on the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Local Development Plan and Re-shaping Services Programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Llantwit Major Town Council meetings
Councillor W.A. Hennessy	(a), (c), (d), (e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings.
Councillor C. Iannucci	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town meetings.
Councillor G. John	(d) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote where issues are raised in respect of sports fees and charges at both Vale of Glamorgan and Llantwit Major Town Council meetings.
Councillor G. John	(d), (e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote where issues are raised in respect of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Re-

		shaping Services and Corporate Plan at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Llantwit Major Town Council meetings.
Ms. R. Morteo	(d), (e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote when matters relating to Church in Wales Primary Schools at all meetings of the Council are being discussed.
Councillor S.M. Perkes	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping services programme when being discussed at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings as appropriate.
Councillor N.C. Thomas	(d), (e), (f), (g) and (i)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote when matters relating to Evenlode School are being discussed at Vale of Glamorgan Council meetings.
Councillor N.C. Thomas	(d), (f), (g) and (i)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote at Council meetings of Penarth Town and the Vale of Glamorgan Council when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan's re-shaping programme are to be discussed.
Councillor M.R. Wilkinson	(d), (e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on matters relating to the review of Councils employment employee terms and conditions in view of family members being employed by the authority.
Councillor M.R. Wilkinson	(c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on matters at both Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's re-shaping services programme and the Local Development Plan when matters are to be discussed at Council meetings.

Councillor M.R. Wilkinson	(d), (e), (f) and (i)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on matters at Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council meetings where issues are raised (including budgets) relating to Gwenfo, Cadoxton primary schools and St. Richard Gwyn High School.
Councillor E. Williams	(e) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote where issues are raised in respect of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Re-shaping Services and at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Llantwit Major Town Council meetings.

(2) T H A T the following late applications relating to Reshaping services as set out in the schedule below be granted up to the date of the next Local Government Elections:

Member Requesting Dispensation	Paragraph(s) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 Under Which Dispensation is Granted	Decision
Councillor L. Burnett	(d), (e), (f) and (g)	Dispensation granted to speak, vote and remain in meetings where issues (including budgets) are considered in respect of Oakfield Primary School.
Councillor C.A. Cave	(d), (e), (f) and (i)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote in meetings where issues are raised in relation to matters (including budgets) concerning Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg
Councillor A.M. Collins	(a), (c), (d), (f) and (g)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan's re-shaping programme at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council meetings
Councillor A.M. Collins	(d), (e), (f) and (g)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on matters relating to Ysgol Gwaun y Nant and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg at

		Vale of Glamorgan Council meetings.
Councillor Dr. I.J. Johnson	(a), (c), (d) and (f)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan's re-shaping programme at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council meetings
Councillor H.M. Payne	(a), (c) and (d)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote on topics connected with the Vale of Glamorgan's re-shaping programme at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council meetings
Councillor M.R. Wilson	(d), (g), (g), (i)	Dispensation granted to speak and vote at both Vale of Glamorgan Council and Penarth Town Council meetings when matters relating to re-shaping are to be considered.

(3) T H A T the use of the Monitoring Officer's delegated powers in consultation with the Chairman of the Standards Committee with regard to Councillor Burnett's dispensation application at Appendix 2 to the report be noted.

(4) T H A T a Special meeting of the Standards Committee be arranged prior to the August recess to consider the late applications (save for the late reshaping applications that had been received as referred to in Resolution 2 above) for dispensation that had been received after the despatch of the agenda for the meeting on 23rd June, 2022.

(5) T H A T all Vale of Glamorgan Councillors and Clerks to Town and Community Council's be informed that should any further applications for dispensation be required to be considered at the Special Standards Committee meeting, to be arranged prior to the recess, all applications must be received prior to the despatch of the agenda.

Reasons for decision

(1&2) To comply with the regulations and obligations for the grant of dispensations to speak and vote.

(3) Having regard to the use of delegated powers under the Council's Constitution.

(4&5) Having regard to the volume of applications that had been received following the despatch of the agenda and to consider any further applications prior to agenda despatch.

AGENDA ITEM 7. OBSERVATIONS BY INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the report and the feedback received at the meeting in respect of the observation visit undertaken by the Chair of Standards Committee to Sully and Lavernock Community Council be accepted.
- (2) T H A T it be noted that a new schedule of Town and Community Council meetings will be prepared and emailed to Independent Members of the Standards Committee for observations to be undertaken commencing from September 2022.
- (3) T H A T it be accepted that at any time during the year (September 2022 to August 2023) that the Monitoring Officer may advise that additional, specific Town and Community Council and Vale of Glamorgan meetings be also observed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1-3) Having regard to the observations undertaken and the role of the Standards Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 8. FEEDBACK REPORT FOLLOWING CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FRAMEWORK TRAINING TO VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCILLORS AND LAY / CO-OPTED MEMBERS BY THE MONITORING OFFICER AND CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FRAMEWORK TRAINING TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS BY THE MONITORING OFFICER AND ONE VOICE WALES (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the progress update in relation to the training that had been undertaken with Elected Members of the Vale of Glamorgan Council be noted.
- (2) T H A T the progress update in relation to the training that had been commissioned for Town and Community Councils in the Vale of Glamorgan by the Monitoring Officer be noted.

Reasons for decisions

- (1-2) Having regard to the contents of the report.

AGENDA ITEM 9. MONITORING OFFICER MEETINGS WITH CLERKS OF TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the report in respect of the Monitoring Officer's meeting with Clerks held on 15th June, 2022 be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to discussions held at the meeting on 15th June, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM 10. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION: MEETING WITH GROUP LEADERS, ALL WALES STANDARDS FORUM, PROGRESS WITH REGARD TO THE RICHARD PENN REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS, UPDATE ON THE WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON THE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT STATUTORY GUIDANCE AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (MO/HLDS) –

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chair be requested to make arrangements to meet with Group Leaders, prior to the recess, to discuss the requirements of Section 62 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 with the intention that a further report be presented to the Standards Committee in due course.
- (2) T H A T it be noted that a further update will be provided in due course to the Standards Committee regarding the establishment of an All Wales Standards Forum.
- (3) T H A T following the meeting with Welsh Government, the Public Services' Ombudsman for Wales and a small group of Monitoring Officers in relation to the Ethical Standards Framework preliminary consultation (as referred to in the report) a further progress update report be presented to the Standards Committee.
- (4) T H A T the progress regarding the submission of representations to Welsh Government regarding the draft statutory guidance on Standards of Conduct be noted.
- (5) T H A T the progress regarding seeking expressions of interest from Town and Community Councils within the Vale of Glamorgan with a view to appointing a Community Council representative to the Standards Committee be noted.
- (6) T H A T in light of Councillor Cuddy's Term of Office coming to an end as the Town and Community Councillor representative on the Standards Committee a letter be sent to express the Standards Committees appreciation for his service and dedication.

Reasons for decisions

- (1-5) In order to apprise Members of progress in relation to the matters.
- (6) In order to acknowledge the service provided by Councillor Cuddy and the appreciation of the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 11. CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE PUBLIC SERVICES
OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES (MO/HLDS) -

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted having regard to the fact that an update on the correspondence received from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales and any matters arising under Part II of the report would be considered under Part II of the agenda.

Reason for decision

To apprise Members of the Committee.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –

RESOLVED – T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

AGENDA ITEM 13. CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE PUBLIC SERVICES
OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES (MO/HLDS) (EXEMPT INFORMATION –
PARAGRAPHS 12, 13 AND 14) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the confidential information provided by the Monitoring Officer at the meeting be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to correspondence received from the Ombudsman, noting that it was confidential at this stage.