

Meeting of:	Standards Committee
Date of Meeting:	Thursday, 29 January 2026
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	No Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Applications for Dispensation
Purpose of Report:	To consider any applications for dispensation received.
Report Owner:	Victoria Davidson, Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services.
Responsible Officer:	Amy Rudman, Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer.
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This report does not involve any consultation with other parties.
Policy Framework:	This report is a matter for consideration by the Standards Committee.
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider applications for dispensation. • Applications for dispensation that have been received in time for agenda despatch have been attached at Appendix 1 to this report. • Should any further applications be received prior to the meeting taking place these will be forwarded to the Committee and uploaded to the Council's website. • It will be a matter for the Committee to consider any late applications after the agenda for the meeting has been despatched. • This report seeks Committee's consideration and determination of dispensation applications submitted by a number of Councillors, as detailed in Appendix 1. 	

Recommendation

1. T H A T the Standards Committee considers and determines the applications for dispensation submitted by Councillors listed in Appendix 1 to this report.

Reason for Recommendation

1. To comply with the regulations and obligations for the grant of dispensations to speak and vote at meetings.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Standards Committee Grant of Dispensations (Wales) Regulations 2001 permits Members to apply to Standards Committee to speak and, if appropriate, to vote on issues which due to prejudicial interests, they may not otherwise be able to speak or vote or remain in the room.
- 1.2 In order to deal with the applications as quickly as possible, it is necessary for the Standards Committee to receive full information of the interests involved and why in the Member's opinion dispensation should be given.
- 1.3 Applicants are advised that they are also able to attend the Standards Committee meeting to present their application if they wish to do so.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Committee is advised that prior to the meetings of the Standards Committee all Town and Community Council Clerks and Elected Members of the Vale of Glamorgan Council are reminded by Democratic Services by email of the dates of meetings and that Members should consider whether there is a need to submit an application for dispensation to the Committee.
- 2.2 The Standards Committee agreed that when applications for dispensation are required to be considered as a matter of urgency, the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee be provided with the authority to consider such applications and to report to a future meeting such applications that have been agreed under this delegated authority. Since the last meeting no such applications have been received.
- 2.3 It is a matter for the Committee to consider whether to accept any late applications for dispensation received after the agenda has been despatched.
- 2.4 Committee is requested to consider and determine the applications for dispensation submitted by the Councillors listed at Appendix 1 to this report:
- 2.5 Vale of Glamorgan Council Councillor W.A. Hennessy to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings of the Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Age 50+ Forum are discussed.

- 2.6** Vale of Glamorgan Council Councillor B. Brooks to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings of the Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Placemaking Plans are discussed.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** One of the roles and functions of the Standards Committee (as detailed in the Council's Constitution) is to consider the granting of dispensations to Councillors, Co-opted Members and Church and Parent Governor Representatives from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1** None as a direct result of this report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1** None as a direct result of this report.

Employment

- 5.2** None as a direct result of this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3** The Council is required to comply with the Standards Committee Grant of Dispensations (Wales) Regulations 2001.

6. Background Papers

[Standards Committee Grant of Dispensations \(Wales\) Regulations 2001.](#)

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(1)A)]



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	William Hennessy
Address	[REDACTED]
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Rhose
Nature of Dispensation sought	Dispensation to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings of the Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Age 50+ Forum are discussed.
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	Whenever the matter is to be discussed at a meeting.
Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period. <i>(N.B. All dispensations granted expire at the next Council elections.)</i>	Until the next Local Government Election in May 2027.
Level of dispensation sought <i>(i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)</i>	To speak and vote.
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted <i>(See (a) to (j) overleaf)</i>	(d) and (f)

Details of the Prejudicial Interest	I have been appointed to Vale 50+ Forum independently from the Vale of Glamorgan Council. If I had been appointed as the Vale of Glamorgan Council's representative I would have the right to speak and vote at Council Committee meetings that I am a member.
Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. <i>Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member</i>)	I am a member of the Scrutiny Committee where such matters are discussed on occasions.
Reason(s) to support the application and why you consider the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation <i>(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)</i>	I am a member of the Scrutiny Committee where such matters relating to the 50+ Forum are discussed on occasions and although I am aware I can speak at the Scrutiny Committee meetings, as the public also have the right to speak, I seek dispensation to also be able to vote on such matters for the Committee I am a member of. Such matters could also be discussed at other meetings of the Council in particular Full Council which I am a member of.

SIGNED: William Hennessy

DATED: 11/12/2025

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): A. Rudman

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



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	Bronwen Brooks
Address	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Court Ward, Barry.
Nature of Dispensation sought	Dispensation to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings of the Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Placemaking Plans are discussed.
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	Any relevant meeting on both Councils where placemaking for Barry is on the agenda.
Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period. <i>(N.B. All dispensations granted expire at the next Council elections.)</i>	Until the next Local Government Election in May 2027.
Level of dispensation sought <i>(i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)</i>	To speak and vote.
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted <i>(See (a) to (j) overleaf)</i>	(d) and (f).

Details of the Prejudicial Interest	I am a twin-hatted member at both County and Town level whereby Placemaking Plans are currently under development and consultation.
Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. <i>Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member</i>)	<p>I am the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for the Vale of Glamorgan Council which is in the process of setting its Placemaking Plans.</p> <p>I am also a councillor on Barry Town Council which is a primary consultee in relation to the Placemaking Plans.</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>It would benefit both Councils if I am able to participate and vote on placemaking – it is relevant in my role as Cabinet Member and an important part of the work and future of the Town Council.</p>

SIGNED: B.E. Brooks

DATED: 22nd January 2026

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): A. Rudman

*Please return completed form to:
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