

<b>Meeting of:</b>	Standards Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Thursday, 04 June 2026
<b>Relevant Scrutiny Committee:</b>	No Relevant Scrutiny Committee
<b>Urgent Decision Procedure Used (If yes, why)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Item Type</b>	Part I
<b>Report Title:</b>	Applications for Dispensation
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources
<b>Strategic Leadership Team:</b>	Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer.

### 1.0 What is this report about?

1.1 This report sets out applications for dispensation submitted by Members who have identified prejudicial interests in matters to be considered at Council meetings. The Standards Committee is requested to consider the appended applications and determine whether dispensations should be granted to allow such Members to speak and/or vote, in line with statutory requirements.

### 2.0 What are the Recommendations?

	<b>Recommendations – What and How?</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation – Why?</b>
2.1	T H A T the Standards Committee consider and determine the applications for dispensation submitted by Councillors listed in Appendix 1 to this report.	To comply with the regulations and obligations for the grant of dispensations to speak and vote at meetings.

### 3.0 What is the background to this report?

3.1 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.

- 3.2 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, via 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.
- 3.3 Applicants are advised that they are also able to attend the Standards Committee meeting to present their application if they wish to do so.
- 3.4 It is a matter for the Committee to consider whether to accept any late applications for dispensation received after the agenda has been despatched. Should any further applications be received following agenda dispatch, but prior to the meeting taking place, these will be forwarded to the Committee for consideration.
- 3.5 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 and grant interim approval of such applications until the next scheduled meeting of the Standards Committee, whereby the applications will be presented to the entire Standards Committee for final ratification. To process applications received under this delegated authority in a timely manner, to the benefit of the applicant, and to meet the Standards Committee's role of granting 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.
- 3.6 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 granted.

#### **4.0 What issues are there to be considered?**

- 4.1 Committee is requested to consider and determine, the applications for dispensation submitted by the Councillors listed at Appendix 1 to this report:
- 4.1.1 Vale of Glamorgan Councillor Charles Champion to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings of the Vale of Glamorgan and Cowbridge Town Council meetings when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Council Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP), except the land subject to application 2022/00958/Ful as the Councillor's wife's family have a financial interest in the land, are discussed.
- 4.1.2 Vale of Glamorgan Councillor Helen Payne to Speak, Vote and remain in meetings of the Vale of Glamorgan and Barry Town Council meetings when matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Telecare Service, are discussed.

## **5.0 How has evidence been used to inform the report, including the views of others?**

- 5.1 The report is informed by the applications for dispensation submitted by Members, as set out in Appendix 1, including the nature of the declared interests and the justification provided for each request.
- 5.2 Consideration has been given to the requirements of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001, relevant statutory guidance, and the Council's Members' Code of Conduct to ensure applications are assessed consistently and lawfully.
- 5.3 Previous decisions of the Council's Standards Committee and established precedent have been taken into account to support a fair and proportionate approach to determining applications.
- 5.4 The Monitoring Officer has reviewed applications to ensure that sufficient information has been provided to enable the Committee to reach an informed decision.
- 5.5 Where applicable, Members have been advised of their ability to attend the meeting to present their applications, ensuring transparency and the opportunity for clarification.

## **6.0 What are the next steps if the recommendations are approved?**

- 6.1 The Standards Committee will formally determine each application for dispensation and record its decisions, including any conditions or time limitations attached.
- 6.2 Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications as soon as practicable following the meeting.
- 6.3 Where dispensations are granted, Members will be able to participate in the relevant meetings in accordance with the terms of the dispensation, ensuring compliance with the Code of Conduct.
- 6.4 Any dispensations granted under delegated authority prior to the meeting will be formally ratified and recorded.
- 6.5 A record of dispensations will be maintained by Democratic Services for audit, transparency, and future reference.

## **7.0 How does this report support Vale 2030 and Reshaping?**

- 7.1 The report supports Vale 2030 by promoting good governance, transparency, and accountability, which are key enablers for delivering the Council's long-term objectives.
- 7.2 By enabling appropriate participation of Members through lawful dispensations, the process helps ensure effective democratic decision-making, supporting priorities across all service

areas.

7.3 The consistent and efficient handling of dispensation applications reinforces public confidence in the Council's ethical standards and decision-making framework.

## **8.0 How does this demonstrate the Five Ways of Working?**

8.1 Long-term: Ensures a consistent and legally compliant approach to managing Members' interests, supporting sustainable governance and decision-making arrangements.

8.2 Prevention: By proactively considering dispensations, the Committee helps prevent breaches of the Code of Conduct and potential complaints or investigations.

8.3 Integration: Aligns ethical governance requirements with the Council's wider objectives, ensuring decision-making processes support service delivery across the organisation.

8.4 Collaboration: Involves coordination between Members, Democratic Services, and the Monitoring Officer to ensure applications are properly prepared and considered.

8.5 Involvement: Provides Members with the opportunity to submit and present applications, ensuring their views are taken into account and that decisions are made transparently.

## **Resources**

### **9.0 Finance**

9.1 None as a direct result of this report.

### **10.0 Workforce**

10.1 None as a direct result of this report.

### **11.0 Legal and Equalities**

11.1 Does an Equalities Impact Assessment need to be completed? If not, why?

An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been completed because this report relates solely to the Committee's statutory responsibilities and does not propose any changes to policy, service delivery, or operational practices that would give rise to identifiable equality impacts.

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

11.3 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.

## 12.0 **Key Contacts**

12.1 Who are the primary officers to contact with any comments and/or queries on the report?

Lead Officer:  Victoria Davidson Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services <a href="mailto:vdavidson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk">vdavidson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk</a>	Democratic Services Officer:  Amy Rudman Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer. 07784 239 277 <a href="mailto:arudman@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk">arudman@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk</a>
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## **Appendix**

Appendix 1 – Applications for Dispensation from Vale of Glamorgan Councillors Charles Champion and Helen Payne.

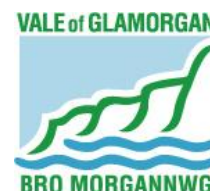
## **Background Documents**

[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	Charles Champion
Address	[REDACTED]
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Cowbridge
Nature of Dispensation sought	<b>Ability to speak and vote on matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Council Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) except the land subject to application 2022/00958/Ful as my wife's family have a financial interest in the land.</b>
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	<b>Whenever the matter is to be discussed at a Vale of Glamorgan Council or Cowbridge Town Council meeting.</b>
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>	<b>Until the next Local Government Election in May 2027.</b>
Level of dispensation sought <i>(i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)</i>	<b>Speak and vote as above</b>
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted <i>(See (a) to (j) overleaf)</i>	<b>(d)</b>

<p>Details of the Prejudicial Interest</p>	<p><b>My wife’s family own the piece of land that is indicated on the RLDP and subject to the planning application 2022/00958/FUL, likely decision 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026.</b></p>
<p>Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. <i>Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member</i>)</p>	<p><b>Vale of Glamorgan Committee Member only: Place Scrutiny Committee, Trust Committee, and Welsh Church Act Estate Trust.</b></p> <p><b>Cowbridge Town Council Member only.</b></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><b>As an Architect I have views that are relevant to the RLDP. I do not wish to speak on an existing application.</b></p>

SIGNED: Charles Champion.....

DATED: 28/04/2026.....

**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): .....

*Please return completed form to:  
Democratic and Scrutiny Services, Directorate of Resources, Room 26, 1<sup>st</sup> 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	Helen Mary Payne
Address	████████████████████████████████████████
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Cadoc
Nature of Dispensation sought	<b>Ability to speak, vote and remain in meetings where matters relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Telecare Service are discussed as my father is now in receipt of a Telecare alarm.</b>
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	<b>Whenever the matter is to be discussed at a Vale of Glamorgan Council or Barry Town Council meeting.</b>
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>	<b>Until the next Local Government Election in May 2027.</b>
Level of dispensation sought <i>(i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)</i>	<b>Speak and Vote as above.</b>
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted <i>(See (a) to (j) overleaf)</i>	<b>(d)</b>

Details of the Prejudicial Interest	<b>Personal not prejudicial: my father is now in receipt of a Telecare alarm managed by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Telecare Team.</b>
Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. <i>Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member</i> )	<b>Vale of Glamorgan Chair Positions:</b> <b>Discretionary Housing Payments Review Committee (Chair)</b> <b>Investigating Committee (Chair)</b>  <b>Vale of Glamorgan Member Only:</b> <b>Full Council</b> <b>Community Liaison Committee</b> <b>Planning Committee</b> <b>Start Well Scrutiny Committee</b>
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>	<b>The support I provide to my father means that I have insight on the Telecare System from both a corporate and personal perspective, that I believe will be useful to any future debate, and not of a prejudicial nature.</b>

SIGNED: Cllr H. Payne

DATED: 19.05.26

**Each section of the form MUST be fully completed.**

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- (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;
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