

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE 7/07/21

Attendance:

Elected Members: Councillors Beth Lawton and Dewi Roberts

Independent Members: Mr Aled Jones, Mr Hywel Eifion Jones, Miss Margaret E. Jones, Mr David Wareing and Dr Einir Young (Chair)

Community Committee Member: Mr Richard Parry Hughes

Also in attendance: Sion Huws (Senior Solicitor – Corporate) and Eirian Roberts (Democracy Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Councillor Anne Lloyd Jones.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received.

3. URGENT ITEMS

No urgent matters were raised.

4. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item due to the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 18C, Section 4, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972. This paragraph applied because it concerned the deliberations of the Standards Committee in reaching a decision on a matter referred to it by the Public Standards Ombudsman for Wales. It was believed that the information should not be disclosed so that the councillor was not prejudiced by any possible publicity of the case before a hearing. Consequently, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

5. REPORT BY THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES ON AN INVESTIGATION INTO A COMPLAINT AGAINST A COUNCILLOR

Submitted – the report of the Senior Solicitor (Corporate) inviting the committee to consider the Ombudsman's report regarding an investigation into a complaint against a councillor, and reaching a decision in accordance with the requirements of the relevant regulations.

RESOLVED

- (a) To invite the person who was the subject of the investigation to submit observations, either orally or in writing, in relation to the conclusions of the investigation and any allegation that he / she had failed to comply with the relevant authority's code of conduct.**
- (b) To convene a special meeting of the Standards Committee to consider and make a decision on the matter.**

- (c) To invite the Ombudsman to the hearing to present the report and/or explain any matters in it.**
- (ch) That officers, in consultation with the Chairman, would arrange a date (and earmark two other dates) for conducting the hearing.**

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.50 pm

CHAIRMAN