

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2024

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2024 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor S Maughan – Chairperson

G Walter

P Baker

R Lynch

Apologies for Absence

None

Officers:

Kelly Watson
Michael Pitman
Rachel Pillinger
Annie Waller

Chief Officer Legal, HR and Regulatory Services
Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services
Investigation Officer - Public Service Ombudsman for Wales
Deputy Legal Advisor - Public Service Ombudsman for Wales

Declarations of Interest

None

155. Urgent Items

Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	09 May 2024

156. Ombudsman Investigation Under S69 of the Local Government Act 2000

Decision Made	<p>The Committee resolved that there was a breach of paragraphs 11 (a), 14(1)(a), 14(1)(c) and 14(1)(e) . The Member did not declare any interests as required under the Code. He also failed to withdraw from the discussion and made representations in respect of an agenda item he had a prejudicial interest in.</p> <p>The Committee determined that based on the facts established at the hearing there was a breach of paragraph 7(a). The Member's involvement in the agenda item could be reasonably considered by the public as an attempt to seek an advantage for his wife, or a disadvantage for the Clerk.</p> <p>Looking at the overall conduct of the Member, the Committee considered that it was sufficiently serious in nature to bring the Council and his office as a member into disrepute. The Committee determined that in these circumstances the public's trust and confidence in the authority and office of Member would be damaged and therefore brought into disrepute.</p> <p>The Committee resolved that the Member should receive a sanction of 6 months suspension. This is in accordance with their powers under the Local Government Investigations (Functions of Monitoring Officers and Standards Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2001.</p>
Date Decision Made	09 May 2024

The meeting closed at 1400