

Meeting of:	STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	7 JULY 2023
Report Title:	OBSERVATION OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	MONITORING OFFICER
Responsible Officer:	LAURA GRIFFITHS GROUP MANAGER LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no effect upon the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules
Executive Summary:	To update the Committee following Members observing a meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Committee. This was in order to gain greater knowledge and understanding of what occurs at meetings of other Standards Committees.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the Committee following Members of this Committee observing a meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 Members of the Committee have previously indicated that they wish to attend a Standards Committee of another local authority as observers. This was to gain a greater knowledge and understanding of what occurs at these meetings and to build on their knowledge.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 Back in January 2020, Cllr Graham Walters and Mr Clifford Jones OBE (Chair) attended a meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee as observers. Prior to the meeting the Members were advised that they did not have any speaking or voting rights as they were acting as observers and that they must not take part in the meeting they were observing or engage in any political discussions.
- 3.2 A feedback report following observations of the meeting has been presented in writing to the Monitoring Officer and is attached as **Appendix 1** for presentation to the Committee. Whilst it is acknowledged that the meeting took place pre pandemic,

Members will note the observations made, what went well and areas that could be improved upon by this Committee.

- 3.3 As part of their remit Members of this Committee can also attend any BCBC meeting and meetings of Town and Community Councils. Given the changes in working arrangements it may be an opportune time for Members to undertake this observation.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act 2010, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report. This report also assists in the achievement of the following well-being objective under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-

A county borough where people feel valued, heard and part of their community.

- 5.2 Standards are an implicit requirement in the successful implementation of the corporate well-being objectives.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no climate change implications.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no safeguarding and corporate parent implications.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendations

It is recommended:

- 9.1 That the Committee note the report and the observations from the Vale of Glamorgan meeting.
- 9.2 That Members decide whether they would like to observe BCBC or Town and

Community Council meetings, and if so, nominate Standards Members to undertake the observation.

Background documents:

None