

To: Chair and Members of Standards  
Committee

Date: 23 February 2024

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Dear Member of the Committee,

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **STANDARDS COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **FRIDAY, 1 MARCH 2024** in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**.

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE A SHORT TRAINING SESSION FOR ALL STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT 9.15 AM IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

Yours sincerely

G. Williams  
Monitoring Officer

## **AGENDA**

### **PART 1: THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS PART OF THE MEETING**

#### **1 APOLOGIES**

#### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 5 - 6)**

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at this meeting.

#### **3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972.

#### **4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 7 - 16)**

To receive the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 8 December 2023 (copy enclosed).

**5 PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES - 'OUR FINDINGS'**  
(Pages 17 - 34)

To consider a report by the Monitoring Officer (copy enclosed) on the published 'Our Findings' page on the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales website.

**6 ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

To note the attendance by members of the Standards Committee at County, Town and Community Council and to receive their reports.

**7 DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

To consider any dispensation requests received from Town/City/Community Councils or at county level.

**8 NATIONAL STANDARDS FORUM UPDATE**

To receive a verbal update regarding the National Standards Forum.

**9 STATUTORY GUIDANCE RELATING TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE, PART 2: SECTIONS 5,6 AND 7 TOGETHER WITH PART 4 (THE SCHEDULE, SECTION 6 AND AGENDA AND REPORTS, SECTION 15.80 (BACKGROUND PAPERS), CHAIRING MEETINGS, SECTION 15.138 ONWARDS).** (Pages 35 - 196)

To receive the guidance on the Statutory Guidance Relating to Standards Committee (copy attached)

**10 FEEDBACK FROM THE ETHICAL LIAISON GROUP MEETING**

To receive a verbal update regarding the Ethical Liaison Group Meeting and whether there was any feedback from the group meeting.

**11 STANDARDS COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT PANEL COMPILATION UPDATE** (Pages 197 - 202)

To receive a report (previously circulated) to provide the standards committee with the composition of the Standards Committee recruitment panel.

**12 PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES ANNUAL LETTER**  
(Pages 203 - 212)

To receive a update regarding the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter (copy attached).

**13 STANDARDS COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 213 - 216)

To consider the Standards Committee Forward Work Programme (copy attached).

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Standards Committee is scheduled for 10:00am 7 June 2024.

**PART 2: CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

It is recommended in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item(s) of business because it is likely that exempt information as defined in paragraphs 12 and 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed.

**15 CODE OF CONDUCT - PART 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000** (Pages 217 - 226)

To consider a confidential report by the Monitoring Officer (copy enclosed) providing an overview of complaints against members lodged with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Independent Members:

Julia Hughes (Chair), Anne Mellor (Vice-Chair), Peter Lamb and Samuel Jones

Town/Community Council Member

Councillor Gordon Hughes

County Councillors

Councillor Bobby Feeley

Councillor Hugh Irving

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