

POWYS INDEPENDENT ALLIANCE GROUP

To: Members of the Montgomeryshire Committee

Dear Members,

At our last meeting of the Montgomery 'Shire' Committee, we had a confidential item on the agenda where the Chief Executive provided us with a report on matters appertaining to the Secondary Schools Transformation project in North Powys, and in particular concerning matters to do with the consultants who had undertaken the work around Welsh Medium provision in the area.

Our Shire Chairman, Cllr. Aled Davies, declared an interest for this confidential item and quite correctly left the room. However, two days later the County Times edition of 4th December was published and it contained a leading article on this issue, in which our Chairman was extensively quoted and the following should be noted:-

- That it was clear from the quotations provided to the press by our Chairman of Shire, Cllr. Aled Davies, that he had somehow obtained information from the confidential Committee session. Information provided in a confidential session and things said in such a session should always remain confidential.**
- In the quotes given to the press, our Chairman made serious defamatory remarks about our Chief Executive Jeremy Patterson. We do not feel that our Shire Chairman should have made such remarks and by doing so has brought the position of Shire Chairman into disrepute, reflecting badly on Shire Committee. In addition by making these remarks our Shire Chairman has undermined the authority of our CEO and made it more difficult for him to carry out his duties.**

The Members of the Powys Independent Alliance Group on the Montgomery 'Shire' Committee, therefore call upon our 'Shire' Chairman, Cllr. Aled Davies to issue an immediate and unreserved apology to the Committee for his behaviour (as described above) and also issue a public apology to the Chief Executive Officer, Jeremy Patterson, for the defamatory remarks that he made in the press.

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr. Wynne Jones
Group Leader Powys Independent Alliance Group**

**On behalf of the PIA Members on the Montgomery 'Shire' Committee.
Dated 25th February 2016**