

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**Standards Community Sub-Committee
23 June 2021**

REPORT BY: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

SUBJECT: Standards Issues

REPORT FOR: Decision, Information and Discussion

A Referral of Councillors to Public Services Ombudsman

A1. Town and Community Councillor Referrals

The current position regarding existing matters with the Ombudsman is as follows:

7/17/TCC	Ombudsman investigating
7/18/TCC	Complaint received – Ombudsman not investigating but now subject to review
8/18/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
10/18/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
11/18/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
13/18/TCC	Ombudsman investigating
15/18/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
16/18/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
02/19/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
11/19/TCC	Concluded no action
13/19/TCC	Standards Community Sub-Committee hearing held on 27 May 2021 – see minutes which are a separate item on the agenda
01/20/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
02/20/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
03/20/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
04/20/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
05/20/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
06/20/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
07/20/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
08/20/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
09/20/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
10/20/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
11/20/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
12/20/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
01/21/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
02/21/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
03/21/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate

04/21/TCC Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
05/21/TCC Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
06/21/TCC Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate

B. Dispensations

B1. Applications - Town and Community Councillors

No applications for dispensation have been received from Town or Community Councillors.

C Independent lay Member on Standards Committee

An independent member vacancy still exists on the Committee. Interviews had been arranged for February 2020 but as a result of two members of the shortlisting/interview panel advising that they knew some applicants, the shortlisting meeting was postponed and was to be rescheduled. However, due to Covid 19 and the Council moving into business critical work, this has not taken place.

The Council agreed the recruitment process at its meeting on 23 January, 2020 and a copy of the report and process is attached Appendix 1. A new timetable for the shortlisting/interview process is being developed.

Applications will be considered by an Appointments Panel of five members:

- two of the current Independent (Lay) Members of the Standards Committee,
- one of the four county councillors sitting on the Standards Committee,
- one Town/Community Councillor sitting on the Standards Community Sub-Committee

and one lay person [High Sheriff] who will act as Chair.

The Standards Community Sub-Committee is requested to nominate a Town/Community Councillor of the Sub-Committee to sit on the Appointments Panel.

D. Ombudsman's Casebook

The Ombudsman has published Code of Conduct Casebooks for the following periods:

- October – December 2019
- January – December 2020

A copy of the Casebooks are attached at Appendix 2.

Back copies of the casebooks can be accessed from the website of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales at: [Casebooks](#)

E. Meeting Dates

To note the next meeting:
Wednesday 13 October 2021

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