

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE HELD AT BY TEAMS ON FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT: Mr S Hays (Chair)

Independent Members: Mrs J Evans, Mrs C Moore and Mr N Steward

Town and Community Council Representatives: Councillors M Morris, H Patrick and J Shearer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor K M Roberts-Jones.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED that Independent Member Claire Moore be appointed as Vice Chair for her term of office.

3. MINUTES

The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2021 as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

The Sub-Committee received the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy filed with signed minutes).

A Referral of Councillors to Public Services Ombudsman

A1. Town and Community Councillor Referrals

The current position regarding matters with the Ombudsman is detailed below:

03/20/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

04/21/TCC	Ombudsman investigating
05/21/TCC	Ombudsman investigating
10/21/TCC	Ombudsman not investigating
11/21/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
12/21/TCC	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate

It was noted that One Voice Wales had circulated a local resolution protocol for town and community councils to adopt. The Head of Legal

and Democratic Services advised that all town and community councils should have such a protocols in place. This protocol would be considered at a future meeting. The Ombudsman was very concerned about the number and nature of complaints received.

B. Dispensations

B1. Applications - Town and Community Councillors

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

C. Term of Office – Town and Community Councillors

The Sub-Committee noted the timetable to appoint the Town and Community Council representatives after the May 2022 elections.

D. Independent Review of the Ethical Standards Framework in Wales

The Sub-Committee noted the report which would be discussed at a future meeting.

E. Standards Conference Wales

The virtual Conference on 9 February was noted.

F. Ombudsman’s Casebook

The Code of Conduct Casebook January 2021- March 2021 was noted.

G. Meeting Dates

The following Sub-Committee dates were noted:

9 September 0930hrs – induction training [once the community council appointments have been made to the Community Sub-Committee]

15 September 1400hrs

5 December 1400hrs

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services thanked Jackie Evans, independent lay member for her 10 years of service and her contribution to the work of the Committee. Jackie thanked the Committee and officers for their support. The Chair, on behalf of the lay members thanked her for her work.

Mr S Hays (Chair)