

# CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council – 11 July 2019

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Democratic Services Committee

**SUBJECT:** Recommendations from the Democratic Services Committee: Personal safety guidance

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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1. Members constantly interact with the public, where the public may raise problems or concerns and they may become upset or angry. Members need to know how to manage such situations safely. Situations may occur where an individual becomes violent. Even though violence towards public figures are rare, councillors have high profile public roles and may become the victims of verbal or written abuse or may experience harassment and stalking and online abuse. It is therefore important that Members are aware of how to manage such situations.
2. Following a review of information provided in other Councils and available via the Welsh Local Government Association the Member Development Working Group and Democratic Services Committee agreed the Personal Safety Guidance, Appendix A, which is based on the Wrexham County Borough Council's guidance. The Guidance has also been reviewed by one of the Council's Health & Safety Advisers.
3. Once agreed the Guidance will be circulated to Members and a member development session on personal safety will be provided for Members.

<b>RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL THAT:</b>	<b>Reason for recommendation</b>
<b>The Personal Safety Guidance for Councillors be approved and that a Member development session on personal safety be provided for Members.</b>	<b>To support Members in their role.</b>

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y / N	Within Budget:	Y / N

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>			
<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>		<b>Wyn Richards</b>	
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>			
<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
Wyn Richards Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager	01597-826375	01597-826220	wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk

**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**