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Standards Committee
2nd November 2016

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON WEDNESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2016

PRESENT:

Independent Members Mrs C Jackson, Mrs J Evans, Mr S Hays, Mrs S Jarman,
County Councillors: P J Medlicott and K S Silk

Also present:

Mr E Pritchard (Investigating Officer on behalf of the Public Services Ombudsman for
Wales)

Mr S Brisley (Public Services Ombudsman for Wales representative)

Ms A Ginwalla (Public Services Ombudsman for Wales representative)

Mrs D Jones (Deputy Monitoring Officer and Standards Office), Mrs L Patterson
(Scrutiny Officer)

1.	APOLOGIES	S33-2016
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No apologies of absence were received.

2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	S34-2016
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No declarations of interest were received.

3.	EXEMPT ITEMS	S35-2016
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RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under:

- Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) for the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and
- Section 100 (A) 4 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) on the grounds that it involves information which is subject to any obligations of confidentiality and that it applies to the deliberations of s Standards Committee established under the provisions of Part 3 of the Local Government 2000 in reaching any finding on a matter referred to it as defined in paragraphs 18 (a) and 18 (c).

4.	CONSIDERATION OF REPRESENTATIONS AND FINAL DETERMINATION OF A REPORT PREPARED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES UNDER SECTION 71 (2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 (REF 201501199)	S36-2016
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The Committee considered a report of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (the Ombudsman) regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct for Members of Powys County Council by Councillor Gary Price, which had been referred to the Standards Committee by the Ombudsman under Section 71 (2) of the Local Government Act 2000 for determination.

County Councillor Price did not attend the Hearing and was not represented. The Standards Committee decided under regulation 8 (4) a of the Local Government Investigations (Functions of Monitoring Officers and Standards Committee) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to proceed in the absence of Councillor Price.

The Investigating Officer from the Ombudsman's Office presented the report and was invited to make representations regarding the matter.

The Committee determined that Councillor Gary Price had been found in breach of parts 4 (b) and 6 (1) (a) of the Members Code of Conduct and should be suspended for a period of five months from being a Member of Powys County Council. The period of suspension would commence on the day after the expiry of the time allowed to lodge a request for permission to appeal.