

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**Standards Committee
20 February 2019**

REPORT BY: Solicitor to the Council

SUBJECT: Standards Issues

REPORT FOR: Decision, Information and Discussion

A. General Standards Issues for County Councillors and Co-opted Members

A1 Code of Conduct Training

Nothing to report.

A2 Mandatory Training

At the last meeting of the Committee in October, 2018 it was reported that three members had not completed the Mandatory Treasury Management training for 2017-18. Following the meeting the Chair of the Committee wrote to the Members advising that they were required to attend the development Session in January 2019 and if they failed to attend would be required to attend the Standards Committee in February 2019 to provide a verbal explanation for their non-attendance. They were also advised of the sanctions which the Standards Committee could consider for non-attendance.

The Committee is advised that all three Members did attend the Mandatory Treasury Management session on 16 January, 2019 and therefore have completed their Mandatory Treasury Management training for 2017-18.

RECOMMENDATION:	REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:
That the Committee notes that the 3 Members have completed their Mandatory Treasury Management training for 2017-18	To monitor attendance at Mandatory Development Sessions.

B. Referral of Councillors to Public Services Ombudsman

B1. County Councillor Referrals

B1.1 The current position regarding matters with the Ombudsman is as follows:

02/CC/2017 Ombudsman investigating

01/CC/2018 Referred to APW

02/CC/2018	Concluded no breach
05/CC/2018	Concluded no further action
08/CC/2018	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
09/CC/2018	Ombudsman deciding whether or not to investigate
10/CC/2018	Ombudsman investigating
11/CC/2018	Ombudsman investigating
12/CC/2018	Ombudsman investigating
1/CC/2019	Ombudsman not investigating

C Dispensations

C1 Applications - County Councillors

No applications for dispensation have been received from County Councillors.

D Late Payment of Expenses

One claim for late payment of expenses has been received from County Councillor Bryn Davies for travel claims. A copy of the claim will be circulated at the meeting.

E Ombudsman's Casebook

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

- July – September 2018

A copy of these Casebook is attached at **Appendix A**

Back copies of the casebooks can be accessed from the website of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales at:

<https://www.ombudsman.wales/code-of-conducts/>

F Arrangements to fill one vacancy arising from the completion of a term of office of an Independent (Lay) Member on the Standards Committee

The County Council in October, 2018 agreed the arrangements to fill one vacancy on the Committee, arising from the completion of the term of office of an Independent (Lay) Member. A press release was published on 4 February, 2019 and adverts were placed in the County Times and the Brecon and Radnor Express during the week of 4 February, 2019, the cost being £1,167.93 [£973.27 excluding VAT].

The arrangements for considering applications is attached at **Appendix B**.

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 who will act as Chair. The Standards Committee is requested to nominate Members of the Committee to sit on the Appointments Panel.

G Correspondence

H Meeting dates

To note dates of future meetings as follows:

Wednesday 5th June 2019

Wednesday 2nd October 2019

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