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**WEDNESDAY, 5 JULY 2023**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL**

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND THE **MULTI LOCATION MEETING OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL** WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE **CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, CARMARTHEN. SA31 1JP AND REMOTELY AT 10.00 AM, ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH JULY, 2023** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

*Wendy Walters*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

<b>Democratic Officer:</b>	<b>Emma Bryer</b>
<b>Telephone (direct line):</b>	<b>01267 224029</b>
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<b>EBryer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</b>

**THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED ON THE AUTHORITY'S WEBSITE VIA THE FOLLOWING LINK:-**  
<https://carmarthenshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,  
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP  
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

# AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.
3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER, CABINET MEMBERS AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (IF ANY)
5. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST JUNE 2023. 5 - 12
6. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL 13 - 26
7. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON THE 19TH JUNE, 2023 27 - 34
8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED).
9. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS:-
  - 9.1 QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR JOHN JAMES TO COUNCILLOR ALED VAUGHAN OWEN CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE, DECARBONISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY  

“The accelerating pace of climate change, deforestation, pollution and other human activities have pushed nature to the brink, threatening the delicate balance that sustains life on Earth.

How do you think Carmarthenshire County Council can best respond to the Nature Emergency which it and the Welsh Government have declared?”
10. MINUTES FOR INFORMATION (AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE WEBSITE)
  - 10.1 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - 7TH JUNE 2023
  - 10.2 DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE - 9TH JUNE 2023
  - 10.3 STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 12TH JUNE 2023
  - 10.4 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 16TH JUNE 2023
  - 10.5 PLANNING COMMITTEE - 22ND JUNE 2023

- 10 .6 EDUCATION, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 23RD JUNE 2023**
- 10 .7 DYFED PENSION FUND COMMITTEE - 26TH JUNE 2023**
- 10 .8 LICENSING COMMITTEE - 27TH JUNE 2023**

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**COUNTY COUNCIL****WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 2023****PRESENT:** Councillor B.A.L. Roberts (Chair)**Councillors (In Person):**

S.M. Allen	K.V. Broom	P. Cooper	C.A. Davies
B. Davies	G. Davies	H.L. Davies	K. Davies
L. Davies	T. Davies	L.D. Evans	S. Godfrey-Coles
J.K. Howell	P. Hughes-Griffiths	J.D. James	M. James
G.H. John	G.R. Jones	H. Jones	A. Lenny
M.J.A. Lewis	A. Leyshon	K. Madge	M. Palfreman
D. Price	E. Rees	B.A.L. Roberts	E.M.J.G. Schiavone
E. Skinner	R. Sparks	D. Thomas	E.G. Thomas
G.B. Thomas	M. Thomas	J. Tremlett	A. Vaughan Owen

**Councillors (Virtually):**

L.R. Bowen	J.M. Charles	M.D. Cranham	D.M. Cundy
S.A. Curry	A. Davies	T.A.J. Davies	C. Davies
S.L. Davies	M. Donoghue	A. Evans	D.C. Evans
H.A.L. Evans	N. Evans	R.E. Evans	W.T. Evans
A.D. Harries	J.P. Hart	T.M. Higgins	P.M. Hughes
R. James	J.P. Jenkins	B.W. Jones	D. Jones
A.G. Morgan	D. Nicholas	B.D.J. Phillips	S.L. Rees
J. Seward	H.B. Shepardson	F. Walters	P.T. Warlow
D.E. Williams	J. Williams		

**Also Present (In Person):**

W. Walters, Chief Executive  
 C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services  
 J. Morgan, Director of Community Services  
 G. Morgans, Director of Education & Children's Services  
 A. Williams, Director of Place and Infrastructure  
 P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance)  
 L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law  
 G. Morgan, Head of Democratic Services  
 C. Higginson, Media Manager  
 L. Jenkins, Cabinet Support Officer  
 S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator  
 A. Edwards, Electoral & Civil Registration Services Manager  
 M. Runeckles, Members Support Officer  
 K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

**Also Present (Virtually):**

I.R. Llewelyn, Forward Planning Manager  
 S. Hendy, Member Support Officer

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

R. Morris, Members Support Officer

**Chamber - County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP and remotely - 10.00 - 11.40 am**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Davies, Ll.M. Davies, C.A. Jones, N. Lewis and D. Owen.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.**

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Minute Number</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
S. Davies	10.1 – Question from Charlie Evans to Councillor Edward Thomas – Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Works for Dolen Teifi – has dispensation to speak but not vote

**3. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

- The Chair stated that she, and her consort, had attended a number of events including amateur theatre productions, mayor making ceremonies in Carmarthen and Burry Port and also the National Urdd Eisteddfod held in Llandovery.
- Councillor H. Davies referred to the recent Urdd Eisteddfod held in Llandovery and extended his appreciation to all those involved in running and supporting the event.
- Councillor D. Thomas congratulated Ffion Davies from Penygroes on being selected to represent Wales as a member of the under 18’s sevens rugby team.
- Councillor A. Vaughan Owen referred to his recent attendance at Cross Hands Cinema to view a production on “Fashion Re-imagined” promoted by the Climate Change Committee of the five roads branch of the Women’s Institute highlighting the impact of the fashion industry on climate change and use of resources and to embrace the concept of a circular economy.
- Councillor L. Bowen congratulated Jonny Clayton from Pontyberem on winning the World Cup of Darts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in three years with his partner Gerwyn Price.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER, CABINET MEMBERS AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (IF ANY)**

The Leader of the Council provided the Council with an update on the current position regarding the Home Office’s decision to use the Strade Park Hotel in Ffwrnes on the outskirts of Llanelli to accommodate asylum seekers. He advised that a verbal update had been received the previous day indicating that from the

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

10<sup>th</sup> July up to 241 individuals would arrive in groups of 50 to be accommodated in 77 rooms at the hotel. He apprised Council of the representations/ concerns made by the Council, and its partners, to the Home Office against this ill-conceived proposal and to its total disregard therefor and lack of consultation and communication. The Council had taken both legal and planning advice on the proposal and was continuing to look at all possible options with a view to preventing the accommodation of asylum seekers at the hotel. He confirmed that when he had more details which he could share publicly, he would share that information with members of the Council.

Councillor M. Palfreman, as a local member, was afforded the opportunity of responding to the Leaders announcement and expressed both his appreciation and continued support for the council's efforts in presenting a robust case to the UK Government against the proposal.

The Cabinet Member for Education and the Welsh Language provided the Council with an update on the recent Eisteddfod held at Llandovery and extended his thanks and appreciation to all involved in making the Eisteddfod a success. He also commended the schools and children from Carmarthenshire taking part in the eisteddfod with 90% of the primary and 100% of the secondary schools being represented.

**5. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE:-**

**5.1. 10TH MAY 2023**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 be signed as a correct record.**

**5.2. 24TH MAY 2023**

The Council's attention was drawn to minute no. 9 relating to the appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committee / Panels and was advised that the reference to Councillor L. Davies having been appointed Vice Chair of the Appeals Committee was incorrect and it should read Councillor L.M. Davies.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 be signed as a correct record subject to the above amendment.**

**6. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS- COMMUNITY REVIEW IN COUNTY OF CARMARTHENSHIRE**

The Council was reminded that at its meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 it had, under the provisions of the Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act 2014, approved the commencement of a Community Review to examine existing Town and Community Governance arrangements within Carmarthenshire and to make final recommendations for any appropriate changes. In accordance with that decision, a formal consultation was undertaken between the 13<sup>th</sup> March and

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

24<sup>th</sup> April and the outcome thereof, as detailed within Appendix A to the report, summarised the responses and proposals for draft recommendations received together with the recommendations put forward by the Electoral registration Officer/Returning Officer.

The Council was advised that subject to its acceptance of the report's recommendations, a second consultation period would need to be undertaken with the outcome to be resubmitted to Council at its October meeting to determine its final recommendations.

**RESOLVED that:**

- 6.1 the proposals set out in Appendix A to the report be adopted by the Council as Draft Recommendations for the purposes of the Community Review.**
- 6.2 The Draft Recommendations be published for consultation purposes from Monday 26 June to Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023 inclusive**
- 6.3 The results of the consultation be reported to Council on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**

**7. TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM:-**

**7.1. STREET NAMING AND PROPERTY NUMBERING POLICY**

The Council was informed that the Cabinet at its meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 (Minute 7 refers) had considered a report on the adoption of a Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy for Carmarthenshire, following consultation on the draft policy considered by Council on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Minute 9.1 refers). It was noted that six responses had been received to the consultation, as detailed in the appendix to the report, none of which, required a specific amendment to be made to the draft policy.

The Cabinet Member in response to representations, advised that she welcomed any examples from members of any issues or inconsistencies on street naming / numbering within their wards which would need to be considered and addressed under the new policy.

**RESOLVED that the following recommendation of the Cabinet be adopted:-**

**“that the Draft Street Naming and Numbering Policy be adopted”.**

**8. TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET HELD ON THE:-**

**8.1. 24TH APRIL 2023**

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.



**RESOLVED that the report of the meeting of Cabinet held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 be received.**

**8.2. 22ND MAY 2023**

**RESOLVED that the report of the meeting of Cabinet held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2023 be received.**

**9. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING NOTICE OF MOTION:-**

**9.1. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLORS ALUN LENNY AND EDWARD THOMAS**

Council considered the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors Alun Lenny and Edward Thomas:-

“Carmarthenshire County Council declares that the deteriorating state of many roads in our county is part of an acute UK-wide problem caused by long term under-funding of local authorities by successive Conservative UK governments since 2010.

Council notes that the extra £200m. recently allocated by Westminster towards ‘the pothole fund’ is just a fraction of the estimated £14b. needed to tackle the local roads repair backlog in Wales and England.

Council also notes with alarm a recent report by the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA) which claims that nearly a fifth of the roads controlled by local councils in Wales and England have a life expectancy of less than five years, and will need to be torn up, repaired and resurfaced.

This council therefore calls on:

- The UK Government to start planning now how to allocate at least £14b. in their next budget as an emergency measure to enable local councils to address this severe deterioration of our infrastructure fabric, especially in rural areas, before next winter;
- The Welsh Government to ensure that all funding allocated towards this heading through the Barnett formula is passed on to county councils, and to divert some of the money saved by the recent scrapping of new road schemes in Wales down to the councils to enable them to step up the work of repairing existing non-trunk roads”.

The motion was duly seconded.

The proposers and seconder of the Motion were afforded the opportunity of speaking in support thereof and outlined the reasons for its submission, as set out in the Motion.

A number of statements were made in support of the Motion.

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Motion be supported.**

**10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS.**

**10.1. QUESTION FROM CHARLIE EVANS TO COUNCILLOR EDWARD THOMAS - CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, WASTE AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES.**

(NOTE: Councillor S. Davies reiterated her earlier declaration of interest in this item and remained in the meeting during its consideration)

"The Welsh Labour Government has announced it is ending the Bus Emergency Scheme on the 24th July.

Industry body Coach and Bus Operators Cymru which represents small firms, has previously raised fears of 65% to 100% of services being cut.

This would have a devastating impact on our communities- making our most vulnerable residents less able to use our town and village centres; workers less able to get to work; and increase car traffic and congestion in our communities; which appears to be in stark contrast to Labour and Plaid Cymru's Cooperation Agreement net zero and public transport strategies.

What planning- financial, operational and logistical- is Carmarthenshire County Council undertaking to ensure we have the same level of bus services across Carmarthenshire after the 24th July".

**Response by Councillor Edward Thomas, Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services:-**

Your question raises a few points which I'll respond to in order if you don't mind.

Yes, Welsh Government had announced the ending of the Bus Emergency Scheme on the 24<sup>th</sup> July. However, last Friday, and only last Friday, it was announced that Welsh Government are making £46m available in the form of a Bus Transition Fund for the whole financial year. This funding will keep the strategic Traws Cymru services running. But, it's also very disappointing for us to see that the Deputy Minister has continued with his plans to end the Bus Emergency Scheme despite cross party support opposing the cuts but, we welcome that a lifeline has been extended for the current year.

In this Chamber only a few weeks ago there was agreement across the Chamber opposing any reduction to funding for services. This council has been categorically and consistently opposing the cuts to the Bus Emergency Scheme and this has been raised by myself and the Leader of the Council via the WLGA and the Southwest Wales CJC.

I must say that I cannot fathom the plan the Deputy Minister has – on one hand he seems to want to encourage us out of our cars and onto public transport but doesn't seem to want too much public transport either. Anyway, as I said, we aren't happy with the cuts, but we understand that the reductions in services across Carmarthenshire will be nowhere near the 65%-100% quoted in your question. As I understand it at this present moment, we'll only lose a small number of services, but these discussions are ongoing at a regional basis.

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

I agree with your point that regarding the loss of Public Transport ‘making the most vulnerable residents less able to use our town and village centres; workers less able to get to work; and increase car traffic and congestion in our communities’. We need to ensure that our residents have access to public transport and, with the current cost of living crisis a car is fast becoming a luxury that some can’t afford. We will continue to engage with Welsh Government to ensure that this doesn’t happen.

You mention that this is in stark contrast to the Labour and Plaid Cymru Co-operation Agreement but, of course bus subsidies do not form part of that co-operation Agreement. What the Co-operation Agreement does identify is the need to develop metro systems in parts of Wales and the need to move towards Net Zero Carbon.

If you’ll allow me to dwell for a second on your reference to ‘stark contrast’, there’s a very stark contrast between six billion pounds and no pounds at all isn’t there. Adequate consequential funding would resolve this situation. I refer, of course to HS2, classed as an ‘England and Wales project by the Conservative Government – even though it does not cross the border into Wales, so how can it be England and Wales Project. Consequential funding, has been provided in Scotland and Northern Ireland, and should provide according to Welsh Government calculations funding of £6bn under the Barnett Formula. But, the Tory Government continue to consider the route through England as a service to Wales – I can’t work that one out. I think we need to look at the maps there. As you can appreciate six billion pounds would enable us to do so much in terms of developing public transport in Southwest Wales and in Carmarthenshire and, I’m sure that you will agree with me that the Tory Government in London have within their gift to right this wrong.

In terms of what we are doing, well that is influenced by the announcement made by the Deputy Minister last week and it appears that on a county level, as I mentioned earlier, we may not see the cuts to services we originally predicted. However, all parties recognise the role of public transport in enabling access to services and are working together to:

1. Explore the implications of a national reduction in funding support,
2. To work up network plans that a reduction of funding will cause and,
3. To present a case for further support as the sector continues the slow process of recovery following the pandemic and other wider economic pressures.

It has been a difficult process. No one wants to see a reduction in services for communities, particularly the vulnerable. Work is ongoing at a regional and national level. I am, however, pleased to advise that due to the efforts of the County Council and other local authorities, via the WLGA, a joint working position has been reached where funding will be provided to the sectors to minimise the risk to services currently operating to the end of the year.

Further work is continuing, as all parties work through the Deputy Minister’s announcement of last Friday. It is clear that the Welsh Government need to

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

outline a long term funding solution for bus services in Wales and there is a need to develop a clear vision for both rail, bus and community transport in Southwest Wales. As I mentioned earlier, there is a real need for the UK Conservative Government to step up to the plate and provide the people of Wales and Carmarthenshire with a fair allocation of resources to deliver that vision.

**Supplementary question by Mr Evans:-**

Residents in LLangunnor ad Nantycaws are extremely concerned that in just five weeks' time bus services will be cut. So when will the public be made fully aware by Carmarthenshire County Council of what services will be cut after the 24<sup>th</sup> July.

**Response by Councillor Edward Thomas, Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services:-**

Thankyou Mr Evans for that supplementary question. I will obviously need to find out about the services for LLangunnor and, as I said, we are working across the region on the effects of this announcement only made last Friday. So, we are working collaboratively together.

**11. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS (NONE RECEIVED).**

The Chair advised that no questions by Members had been received.

**12. MINUTES FOR INFORMATION (AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE WEBSITE)**

The Chair stated that the minutes outlined on the agenda under 12.1 – 12.6 were available for information on the Council website.

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

## FULL COUNCIL 12/07/2023

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

**Purpose:**

To receive the Standards Committee Annual Report for 2022-2023

**Recommendations / key decisions required:**

To note the annual report

**Reasons:**

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 now requires Standards Committees to report to Full Council annually

Cabinet Decision Required	NO
Council Decision Required	YES

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- not applicable

<p>Directorate:</p> <p>Chief Executives</p> <p>Name of Head of Service:</p> <p>Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p>Report Author:</p> <p>Robert Edgecombe</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Administration and Law</p> <p>Legal Services Manager</p>	<p>Tel: 01267 224018</p> <p>Email addresses:</p> <p>rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 now requires Standards Committees to report to Full Council on an annual basis.

The Act requires the report to contain certain information regarding the activities of the committee during the year and to provide an assessment as to whether the Group Leaders on the Council have complied with their duties under the 2021 Act to

1. Take reasonable steps to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by the members of their group and;
2. Co-operate with the Council's Standards Committee in the exercise of the Standards Committee's functions.

A copy of the Annual report is attached and will be presented to Full Council by the Chair of the committee, Mary Dodd

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: *Linda Rees-Jones*                      **Head of Administration and Law**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### Legal

There is a statutory duty upon the Standards Committee to present its Annual Report to Full Council

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: *Linda Rees-Jones*

Head of Administration and law

<b>1. Scrutiny Committee request for pre-determination</b>	N/A
<b>Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Date the report was considered:-</b>	
<b>Scrutiny Committee Outcome/Recommendations:-</b>	

**2. Local Member(s)**

N/A

**3. Community / Town Council**

N/A

**4. Relevant Partners**

N/A

**5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations**

N/A

<b>CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED</b>	N/A
NO	

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Legal Services File	DPSC-210	County Hall





# STANDARDS COMMITTEE

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

### Foreword

1. Period Covered by the Report
2. Terms of Reference
3. Membership of the Committee
4. Referrals from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
5. Notices issued by the Adjudication Panel for Wales
6. Cases Closed by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
7. Applications for Dispensation
8. Code of Conduct Training
9. Whistleblowing Policy
10. Code Compliance by Town and Community Councils
11. Group Leaders Duty
12. Other Activities
13. Conclusion

## **Foreword by Chair of Standards Committee**

It is my pleasure to present to Full Council the annual report for the Standards Committee, covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

As Councillors you will know that the law requires every County and County Borough Council in Wales to establish and maintain a Standards Committee. Such committees are responsible for overseeing standards of conduct for elected members of both the principal council and the constituent community and town councils within the principal council's area.

In performing this role, the Committee receives and determines applications for dispensation from elected members in relation to the Code of Conduct and adjudicates upon code complaints referred to the Council by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

In addition, the Committee also receives reports in relation to the operation of the Council's whistle-blowing policy.

This is the first annual report presented by the Standards Committee in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 which placed new duties upon political group leaders to promote compliance with the code by their group members. This Act also placed a requirement upon Standards Committees to report on how well group leaders have complied with those duties and our findings in this regard can be found at section 9 of this report.

Mary Dodd

Chair – Carmarthenshire County Council Standards Committee

### **1. PERIOD COVERED BY THE REPORT**

This report covers the activities of the Standards Committee during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

During this period the committee met a total of 14 times, which is significantly more than normal. This was largely due to the committee having to deal with 2 referrals from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, but several additional meetings also had to be called to deal with dispensation requests.

### **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The role and functions of the committee as set out in the constitution of the Council are:

- To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members.
- To assist councillors and co-opted members to observe the Members' Code of conduct.
- To advise the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct
- To monitor operation of the Members' Code of Conduct
- To advise, or arrange training for councillors and co-opted members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct
- To grant dispensations to councillors and co-opted members where they have a personal and prejudicial interest under the Members' Code of Conduct
- To deal with reports from the Adjudication Panel for Wales and reports from the Monitoring Officer or the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
- The exercise of the above functions in relation to Town and Community Councils in the county
- To receive annual reports on the operation of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy

### **3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Panel consists of 9 members, 3 County councillors, 1 Community councillor and 5 co-opted members.

There were no changes to the co-opted members of the committee during the period covered by this report. The co-opted members were.

Mrs Mary Dodd (Chair)

Mrs. Julie James (Vice-chair)

Mrs. Daphne Evans

Mrs. Caryl Davies

Mr. Frank Phillips

The Community council member of the committee Councillor Philip Rogers (St. Clears Town Council) was reappointed following the elections in May 2022.

There were changes to the County Council members following the May 2022 elections. The County Council members of the committee during the period covered by this report were.

Councillor. Jeanette Gilasbey (until the May 2022 elections)

Councillor Betsan Jones (after the May 2022 elections)

Councillor. Gareth Thomas

Councillor. Rob James

#### **4. Referrals from The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**

As indicated in section 1 the Committee was required to adjudicate upon two reports received from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 during the year. These related to allegations that certain councillors had breached the members code of conduct.

Both reports related to individuals who were Town or Community Councillors at the time the code breaches occurred.

One case was concluded entirely during the period covered by this report and resulted in the member in question being suspended from office. This case arose following the conviction of the member in question for a criminal offence. This conviction attracted adverse public comment and it was concluded that the member's conduct had brought the office of councillor and the council itself into disrepute.

In the second case a 2-day hearing took place in February 2023 but it was necessary to adjourn matters into a third day due to the volume of evidence presented. Therefore, the case was not concluded until April 2023. Although falling outside the scope of this report I can confirm that this member was also suspended from their role as a Town councillor.

This case arose from an incident in a public space between the councillor in question and 3 other councillors. The committee found the alleged conduct largely proven and that it breached the code of conduct and brought the office of councillor and the relevant council into disrepute.

The code breaches occurred in 2020 and 2021 respectively and, whilst the investigations were undoubtedly impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic, this does demonstrate that these matters can be lengthy ,complex, costly and traumatic for the individual councillor concerned.

#### **5. Notices Received from the Adjudication Panel for Wales**

No notices were received from the Adjudication Panel for Wales pursuant to Chapter 4 of Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 during the period covered by this report.

## 6. Cases closed by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales

During the period covered by this report the Council's Monitoring Officer was notified that Public Services Ombudsman for Wales had considered and closed a total of 15 code of conduct complaints against councillors from Carmarthenshire. This figure includes the 2 cases referred to in section 4. The breakdown of these cases is shown in the table below.

<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Decision not to Investigate</b>	<b>No Action (Following Investigation)</b>	<b>Referred to Standards Committee</b>	<b>Total No. of Complaints Closed</b>
Carmarthenshire County Council	10	1	0	11
Kidwelly Town Council	1	0	0	1
Llandovery Town Council	0	0	1	1
Llanelli Rural Council	0	0	1	1
Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>

There may however also be complaints currently with the Ombudsman awaiting determination.

The committee continues to be satisfied that most councillors do comply with the code and that where allegations of breach are made, they are usually unfounded or are not considered by the Ombudsman to be sufficiently serious to warrant enforcement action.

However, as the 2 referrals that were made to the committee in 2022 demonstrate councillors should not be complacent and must be always mindful of their obligations under the code.

## 7. APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

The Committee considered 52 applications for dispensation from County and Community and Town Councillors during the year, all but one of which were either granted or partly granted.

This represents a significant increase compared to previous years, although this was due at least in part to councillors seeking to renew dispensations previously granted to them which had lapsed due to the May 2022 elections.

The grounds upon which the Committee may grant a dispensation are set out in the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001.

The Committee continues to approach each application with a presumption in favour of granting a dispensation wherever practicable, particularly in relation to granting a dispensation to speak only.

Details of the applications that have been dealt with can be viewed as part of the minutes of the meetings of the Committee which are accessible on Carmarthenshire County Council's website [www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk](http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk).

## 8. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

Three Code of Conduct Training sessions were held during the period covered by this report. These were.

- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – for new County Councillors
- 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 – for Town and Community Councillors
- 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022 – for Town and Community Councillors

All the sessions were run in a hybrid manner, and all were well attended.

## 9. WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

The Committee has oversight of the authority's Whistleblowing Policy. The process is regulated by the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998, which protects against dismissal and other detriment for workers who disclose information in the public interest in prescribed circumstances to prescribed persons.

The number of whistleblowing complaints recorded during the period of this report are set out below.

New Complaints	Complaints carried over from 2021/22	Cases Concluded	Cases Continuing
3	1	4	0

The number of complaints continues to be consistent with those received by other local authorities.

It is pleasing to note that no cases have been carried over into 2023/2024 for investigation. This continues the general trend of improvement in this regard.

The Committee reviewed the Whistleblowing Policy during the period covered by this report and updated it to reflect changes to the nominated contact officers listed.

#### **10. CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLIANCE BY TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The committee again received a report regarding the extent to which Town and Community Councils within the County are complying with the Code of Conduct. The report contained data relating to:

- Code complaints
- Dispensation requests
- Declaration of interests
- Code Training

No obvious patterns or trends could be discerned from the data. Overall levels of compliance with the code appeared to be good as evidenced by the figures in section 6.

#### **11. GROUP LEADERS DUTY**

As indicated in the foreword to this report the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 places new duties on political group leaders and requires Standards committees to monitor and report on their performance of these duties.

The group leaders' duties are.

- To take reasonable steps to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by the members of their group
- To co-operate with the council's standards committee in the exercise of the standards committee's functions

#### Summary of steps taken by the Standards Committee

The Monitoring Officer made the Council's 3 political group leaders aware of these duties following the May 2022 elections and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 I wrote to group leaders reminding them of their duties under the Act. Group leaders were asked to provide a report

setting out how they had complied with those duties by the 31st March 2023. All Group Leaders were also provided with a template report for them to use if they wished.

### Summary of reports received from the Group Leaders

#### **Cllr Darren Price – Plaid Cymru Group**

Cllr Price provided a report on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023. This confirmed that 7 complaints had been made to the Ombudsman against members of the Plaid Cymru Group during the period covered by the report, none of which had been upheld. He also confirmed that one group member had referred himself to the Ombudsman and that the matter was still under investigation as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

Councillor Price confirmed that 21 out of 38 group members (55%) had attended the code training in May 2022 and outlined the steps that he had taken to ensure that the remaining group members also attended code of conduct training arranged for April and May 2023. Councillor Price explained that more experienced members of the group helped new members understand and comply with the requirements of the code.

Councillor Price has attended Code of Conduct Training since the May 2022 elections.

#### **Cllr Rob James – Labour Group**

Councillor James provided a report on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023. This confirmed that 4 complaints had been made to the Ombudsman regarding Labour Group Members and that 2 further Labour Group Members has been referred to the Council's own Informal Resolution Procedure. Councillor James also confirmed that all group members had received code training since May 2022 and that the Group had put in place specific measures to ensure that the use of social media accounts did not breach the code.

Councillor James has attended code of conduct training since the May 2022 elections.

#### **Cllr Jane Tremlett – Independent Group**

Councillor Tremlett provided a report dated the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. This confirmed that no code of conduct complaints had been made against members of the Independent Group during the period covered by the report.

Councillor Tremlett highlighted that only 3 group members had attended code of conduct training immediately following the May 2022 elections and that she had taken steps to stress to the remaining group members the importance of attending the additional code training sessions arranged in April and May 2023.



Councillor Tremlett has attended code of conduct training since the May 2022 elections.

Assessment of the extent to which political group leaders have complied with their duties under the Act.

The committee are satisfied that, based on the information before them , all the Group Leaders have complied with their duties under the 2021 Act.

Summary of any action taken following consideration of the Group Leaders reports

The committee will consult with the Group leaders regarding the form and content of the reporting template to facilitate the provision of all relevant information.

**12. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

In addition to the above activities the Committee also:

- Received and considered case decisions of the Adjudication Panel for Wales
- Received and considered case decisions made by other Standards Committees in Wales

Where appropriate the Committee has identified points of learning and best practice and has taken them into account in their own decision making and included them in the training referred to in paragraph 5 above.

**13. CONCLUSION**

The committee had a very busy year, and I am grateful to my fellow committee members for their valuable contributions throughout.

There have been generally good levels of compliance with the Code of Conduct exhibited by Councillors across the County, but the 2 referrals by the Ombudsman are a reminder to everyone of the consequences of breaching the Code.

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## CABINET

**MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor L.D. Evans (Vice-Chair in the Chair) (In Person)

**Councillors (In Person):**

C.A. Davies	G. Davies	P.M. Hughes	G.H. John
A. Lenny	E.G. Thomas	J. Tremlett	A. Vaughan-Owen

**Also in Attendance (In Person):**

Councillor D.M. Cundy

**Also Present (In Person):**

W. Walters - Chief Executive  
J. Morgan - Director of Community Services  
C. Moore - Director of Corporate Services  
G. Morgans - Director of Education & Children's Services  
A. Williams, Director of Place and Infrastructure  
P. Thomas - Assistant Chief Executive  
J. Jones - Head of Regeneration  
L. Rees-Jones - Head of Administration and Law  
L. Jenkins - Cabinet Support Officer  
C. Higginson - Media Manager  
A. Eynon - Simultaneous Translator  
J. Owen - Democratic Services Officer

**Also Present (Virtually):**

M. Evans Thomas - Principal Democratic Services Officer [Note Taker]  
M. Runeckles - Members Support Officer

**Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen and remotely : 9.30 am to 10.35 am**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor D. Price, Chair, who was engaged in alternative Council business.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

The following declarations of interest were made:-

Councillor	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
A. Davies	5 – Public Questions on Notice	The cycle path passes through land her family owns and farms. Personal and prejudicial
A. Davies	15 – Sustainable Communities Fund	One of the applications has been submitted by a Group in her ward. Personal and prejudicial
G. Davies	15 – Sustainable	One of the applications has

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

	Communities Fund	been submitted by a Group in his ward.
L.D. Evans	11 – Model Teachers' Pay Policy 2022/23	Her daughter is a teacher.
P.M. Hughes	15 – Sustainable Communities Fund	One of the applications has been submitted by a Group in his ward.
A. Vaughan-Owen	11 – Model Teachers' Pay Policy 2022/23	His wife is a headteacher.
A. Vaughan-Owen	15 – Sustainable Communities Fund	He is a member of a number of groups who have made applications.

**3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON THE 22ND MAY, 2023.**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2023 be signed as a correct record.

**4. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS**

The Chair advised that no questions on notice had been submitted by members.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

[NOTE: Councillor A. Davies, having earlier declared an interest, left the meeting prior to the consideration and determination of this item.]

The Chair advised that one public question had been received.

**5.1. QUESTION BY MR HAVARD HUGHES TO CLLR. EDWARD THOMAS, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, WASTE AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

“Welsh Government guidance stipulates that compulsory purchase should be the option of 'last resort' following negotiation for voluntary sale of land. Yet the Council's Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in relation to the Towy Valley Cycle Path appears to apply to the whole route from Whitemill to Llandeilo. Without asking for disclosure of individual names, can you provide public assurance that negotiations were entered into in respect of the land required for the Cycle Path and confirm how many - if any - voluntary sales have been secured outside of the CPO.”

**Response by Councillor Edward Thomas, Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure:-**

“Carmarthenshire County Council is aware of the guidelines issued by the Welsh Government in the making of Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) and acknowledges the expectation by Welsh Ministers that the Acquiring Authorities must demonstrate that they have taken steps to acquire all of the land and rights including the CPO by agreement wherever possible. The assembly of multiple plots and titles benefit from the certainty of timing and the consistency of

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approach that a CPO will bring. Nevertheless, the Council as Acquiring Authority is conscious of the need to adopt good practice by offering the affected parties the opportunity to enter into an agreement to voluntarily sell where they are prepared to do so. A CPO by its very nature is intended to secure the assembly of land needed for the implementation of a scheme where it cannot be acquired by agreement. However, an Acquiring Authority cannot wait for negotiations to break down before starting the compulsory purchase process. Valuable time will be lost. Therefore, having regard to the need to deliver the scheme in a timely manner to comply with the demands of the Levelling Up Funding Office, it is considered sensible, given the amount of time required to complete the compulsory purchase process and having regard to the number of plots of land required to assemble the route for the County Council to initiate formal proceedings. This will run in tandem with continued negotiations. The compulsory purchase process permits the inclusion of land already owned by the Acquiring Authority in a CPO to ensure a full legal title. The Council, prior to commencing the process has been in consultation and negotiation with all landowners including all third parties whose rights might be affected by the proposal. Five parcels of land have already been secured and agreement reached via negotiation on a further six parcels. Initiating compulsory purchase procedure demonstrates the Council's commitment to deliver the scheme from the outset. Public consultation events on the creation of the proposed shared use route demonstrated overwhelming public support for its delivery. The Council is therefore confident that attempts have been made to acquire the land by agreement wherever possible, however, not all land will be acquired in this manner therefore consequently there is no realistic alternative to the use of compulsory purchase powers."

**Supplementary question by Mr Havard Hughes:-**

"Are you confident in meeting the deadline of March next year by which the Levelling Up funding for the cycle path must be spent, given that there is large scale and significant objection by landowners to compulsory purchase, do you think a Public Inquiry is likely and therefore the funds are likely to be lost."

**Response by Mr Jason Jones, Head of Regeneration:-**

"We are as confident as we can be, yes and we are in constant dialogue with UK Government around the Levelling Up funding but there is a process to follow as per the question and the response. There are no guarantees in that regard but we do remain confident. Thank you."

The Chair thanked Mr Hughes for submitting a question and for his attendance at the meeting.

- 6. HEALTH & CARE SYSTEM FOR WEST WALES : HOW FAR, HOW FAST?**  
Cabinet considered a report outlining the response in West Wales to progressing integration. Specifically, the paper outlined an opportunity in Carmarthenshire to develop and implement a health and care system for older people that is based on 'what matters' to this population and will be fit for purpose both now and into

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

the future. The paper also considered alignment to the Ministerial Discussion Document known as 'Further, Faster' and its expectations.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**

**6.1 that the report, opportunity and current state be acknowledged;**

**6.2 that the proposal and high level plan be approved.**

**7. THE MID & WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & ADULTS BOARDS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022.**

Cabinet considered the Mid & West Wales Safeguarding Children & Adult Boards Annual Report 2021/22 which outlined the progress made against the outcomes set by CYSUR and CWMPAS as part of a joint Annual Strategic Plan.

The preceding two years have brought unprecedented challenges for the Regional Safeguarding Board and its partners in its endeavours to respond to the challenges of the COVID-19 global pandemic, in ensuring the citizens of Mid and West Wales are protected from experiencing harm, abuse or neglect. This year's annual report outlined some of the key achievements and demonstrated how they have been delivered against the objectives set at the start of the year. This included a continued commitment to deliver against the Violence against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) agenda.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Annual Report which provides an Overview of the Objectives and Achievements of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Children & Adults Board for 2021/22 be received.**

**8. PETITION FOR ROAD SAFETY - BLACK LION ROAD, CROSSHANDS.**

Cabinet considered a report detailing the response to the petition presented to Council in December 2022 regarding road safety along Black Lion Road in Crosshands.

At the Council meeting the Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services advised that the issues raised in the petition would be investigated by the department and that a report would be presented to a future meeting of the Council's Cabinet.

An investigation has since been undertaken by officers of the Highways & Transportation Service and the findings are detailed within the report

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**

**8.1 that the contents of the report are noted;**

**8.2 that the petitioners' request for traffic calming on Black Lion Road be declined;**

**8.3 that the petitioners' request for changes to the staggered junction of Black Lion Road be declined;**

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

**8.4 that officers work to influence driver compliance with speed limits along the Cross Hands Economic Link Road;**

**8.5 that a Stage 4 Road Safety Audit be undertaken in due course;**

**8.6 that the petitioners are informed accordingly.**

**9. BURRY PORT HARBOUR PETITION TO FULL COUNCIL - UPDATE POSITION.**

Cabinet considered a report providing an update on the position at Burry Port Harbour, following a petition presented to full Council on the 25th January 2023 by the Friends of Burry Port Marina (FBPM).

It was noted that officers representing the Regeneration, Finance, and Leisure divisions continue to meet regularly with the Managing Director of The Marine Group, where operational concerns have, and continue to be raised and discussed. Officers are also meeting regularly with the Chair of FBPM.

The County Council shares the stated aim of FBPM in wanting a safe, functioning, attractive facility that is a genuine benefit for both the harbour users and the whole community.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**

**9.1 that the position regarding the lease obligations of Burry Port Marina Ltd (BPML) in respect of their management of the Harbour be noted;**

**9.2 that Carmarthenshire County Council's position in relation to landlord responsibilities for the lease of the asset and the continued engagement by officers with the management of BPML be noted.**

**10. TACKLING POVERTY PLAN**

Cabinet considered the Tackling Poverty Plan which outlined the Council's approach towards addressing poverty related matters.

This Plan focuses on the wider tackling poverty agenda with key actions identified over the next 12 months which will support the Council's response to the current cost of living crisis. This Plan will be reviewed when the Welsh Government publishes its Child Poverty Strategy which is expected within the next 12 months.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Council's Tackling Poverty Plan 2023 be approved.**

**11. MODEL TEACHERS' PAY POLICY 2022/23.**

[NOTE:

(1) Councillors L.D. Evans and A. Vaughan-Owen, having earlier declared an interest, left the meeting prior to the consideration and determination of this item.

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

(2) In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair it was proposed, seconded and agreed that Councillor A. Lenny chair the meeting during the consideration of this item].

Cabinet considered a report providing details of the updated Model Teachers' Pay Policy 2022/23.

The policy has been updated to reflect the September 2022 pay award as detailed in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions (Wales) Document 2022. Other changes include the revision of the pro-rata principle for TLR 1 and 2 allowances and the additional Bank Holidays to mark the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III which meant that teachers must be available to work for 193 days / 1258.5 hours instead of the usual 195 days.

In order to comply with the requirements of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions (Wales) Document 2022, which requires every school to have a pay policy setting out how pay decisions are taken, it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to endorse the Model Teachers' Pay Policy 2022/23 prior to circulation to schools for formal adoption by their Governing Bodies.**

**12. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT BY REASONS OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR DECIDES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT TO SECTION 100B(4)(B) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972.**

The Chair advised that there were no items of urgent business.

**13. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as the reports contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.**

**14. CARMARTHEN WEST LINK ROAD - LANDOWNER & COMPENSATION AGREEMENT - DEED OF VARIATION**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 13 above, not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act). The public interest test in respect of this report outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information contained therein as disclosure would adversely impact upon public finances by undermining the council's negotiating position in this and other similar transactions.

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.



The Cabinet considered a report which provided details of a Deed of Variation in relation to the Carmarthen West Link Road.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Deed of Variation be approved.**

**15. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FUND**

[NOTE: Councillors A. Davies, G. Davies, P.M. Hughes and A. Vaughan-Owen, having earlier declared an interest, left the meeting prior to the consideration and determination of this item.]

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 13 above, not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act). The public interest test in respect of this report outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information contained therein as disclosure would have the potential to undermine the position of the organisations concerned in relation to other organisations operating in the same sphere of activity.

The Cabinet considered a report which provided an overview of applications submitted under the Sustainable Communities Fund.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

**15.1 that the projects detailed in Table 2 be awarded funding as recommended by the Funding Panel;**

**15.2 that funding for the additional 11 projects as detailed in Table 3 be approved, subject to Regeneration Partnership approval.**

**15.3 that additional funding in the sum of £1m be transferred into the Sustainable Communities Fund from other parts of the SPF programme.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

Note: These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

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