

**APPLICATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
FOR DISPENSATION**

Please note that each section **MUST** be completed. Please refer to the attached  
Guidance Notes when completing the form.

**1. YOUR DETAILS**

Your full name: Martyn James Palfreman

Name of your Council: Carmarthenshire County Council

Your address and postcode: 24 Parc Howard Avenue, Llanelli SA15 3JY

Contact telephone number(s): 07878 358894

Email address: [MPalfreman@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:MPalfreman@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

**2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST**

What is the matter under consideration?

The provision of social care services in Carmarthenshire and across the South West Wales Region

What is your interest in the above matter?

I am Director of a private consultancy organisation, Martyn Palfreman Consulting Ltd., and in this role I provide support to public and third sector organisations in Wales relating to strategy, service delivery and leadership development. Although I provide support in a range of service areas, a priority focus for my business is Health and Social Care, reflecting my professional knowledge and experience.

I also am an Associate with [Practice Solutions Ltd](#) and [Hugh Iwin Associates](#) (HICO) which also provide similar services to organisations across Wales. I also work periodically with similar organisations on an ad hoc basis.

I am currently engaged in two time-limited contracts between Carmarthenshire County Council and Practice Solutions Ltd., as follows:

- Supporting partners on the West Wales Regional Partnership Board (including the County Council) with implementation of a regional social value forum (the Innovations Forum), required under Part 2 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act. This involves working with commissioners and providers across the West Wales region and developing a programme for the forum. The work will be completed by 31 March 2023.
- Supporting the County Council with a baseline assessment of age-friendly practice across a range of services to support an application by the Council to join the World Health Organisation's Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities. This project is currently at inception stage and is expected to be completed by Autumn 2022.

When will the above matter be considered?

This matter may be considered periodically by the County Council, Cabinet and relevant scrutiny committees

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only: X

Speak and vote:

Make written Representations X

Exercise Executive Powers

### 3. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations issued by the National Assembly for Wales prescribe the circumstances in which the Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. These grounds for granting a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

• at least half of the members considering the business has an interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my inability to participate would upset the political balance of the meeting to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	X
• my participation would not damage public confidence	X

• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	X
• the business is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board I am a member and I have no other interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• it is appropriate to do so in all the circumstances where not otherwise possible to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a person's disability	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 4. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case:

***(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)***

From 2013 to 2021 I was employed by the Council as its Head of Regional Collaboration, with responsibility for the management and coordination of the strategic multi-agency health and care partnership in West Wales (the West Wales Care Partnership or WWCP). As such I gained considerable knowledge and experience in the challenges posed by the integration of health and social care services across West Wales, including in Carmarthenshire.

Since leaving the Council I have worked as a consultant in the private sector, including working on projects commissioned by the Council as detailed in section 2 of this application.

I believe that I can bring a wealth of relevant knowledge and experience to any debate or discussion regarding the provision of health and care services in the County which would be of significant benefit to my fellow councillors.

As a councillor I do not hold any position in the authority which has the delegated power to make decisions regarding these services. I am not a cabinet member, nor am I a member of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee. My involvement in Council business of this nature will therefore be limited to participation in any debate at Full Council or representing the interests of my constituents when they have difficulties in relation to the health and care services they receive.

I therefore seek a dispensation allowing me to speak and make written representations in relation to such matters subject to the following;

- Any dispensation not applying on any occasion where the Council or Committee were specifically discussing any work in which I was, had been or potentially could be, directly involved through my business or associated professional activities
- That following completion of the contracts mentioned above, I will not be actively seeking contracts, or to be engaged in commissioned work of this nature, with Carmarthenshire County Council

*(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)*

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

Signed:

Date:

Please return this form to the Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP.

#### **Guidance notes**

- (1)** Please read through the Code of Conduct and decide which of the paragraphs is most appropriate to your case. Brief details of the relevant paragraphs are noted in the table below. If you are unsure, please contact the Monitoring Officer for advice.

<b>Para.</b>	<b>Type of personal interest</b>	
10(2)(a)	Council business which relates to or is likely to affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• your employment or business,</li> <li>• your employer, firm or company</li> <li>• a contract made between the Council and you</li> <li>• any land, lease or licence in which you have an interest</li> <li>• a public body or other association in which you have membership or hold a position of general control or management</li> </ul>	
10(2)(c)	Council business which affects your well-being or financial position, or the well-being, financial position or other interests of a person with whom you live or have a close personal association	
13	Council business which is being considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and which relates to a decision of the Cabinet or another Committee of which you were a member at the time [County Council only]	

**(2)** The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001(as amended) state that a Standards Committee may grant dispensations where:

- (a) no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;
- (b) no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;
- (c) in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;
- (d) the nature of the member's interest is such that the member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;
- (e) the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;
- (f) the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;
- (g) the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;
- (h) the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business; or
- (i) it appears to the committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the relevant authority that the disability should be removed provided that written notification

of the grant of the dispensation is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify.

- (j) It is considered appropriate in all the circumstances to do so where not otherwise possible to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a persons disability