

# RECONVENED STANDARDS COMMITTEE

4 AUGUST 2022

**PRESENT:** Mrs M. Dodd (Chair)

**Independent Members:**

Ms D. Evans, Mrs J. James

**Community Member:**

Town Councillor P. Rogers;

**Councillors:**

G. B. Thomas.

**The following Officers were in attendance:**

L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law;

R. Edgecombe, Legal Services Manager;

M. Evans Thomas, Principal Democratic Services Officer;

A. Eynon, Principal Translator;

J. Owen, Democratic Services Officer [Minute Taker].

**Virtual Meeting: 2:05pm - 2:50pm**

[**Note:** Due to technical difficulties in streaming the live webcast, the Committee in being made aware that the order of business from the start would not be webcasted or available for public viewing, sought legal advice and agreed to proceed with the order of business as set out on the agenda.]

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Independent Members, C. Davies and F. Phillips and County Councillor B. W. Jones

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. 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.

**4. INITIAL CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES IN RESPECT OF COUNCILLOR TERRY DAVIES**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 5 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 disclosure at this initial stage of a two-stage process would be a disproportionate and unwarranted intrusion into the private and family life of the Councillor in question.

The Committee considered a report received by the Council's Monitoring Officer from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales which set out the results of the investigation into allegations that Councillor Davies had breached the members code of conduct.

Members, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Committee, carried out an initial consideration of the report and based solely upon the contents of the Ombudsman's report came to a determination.

**RESOLVED** that the report contained evidence of a breach and that Councillor Davies should be given the opportunity to make representations to the Committee, either orally or in writing, in respect of the findings of the investigation.

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**