

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

18TH SEPTEMBER 2023

A NEW TRIBUNAL SYSTEM FOR WALES: WHITE PAPER

Purpose:

To note the consultation proposals and formulate a response on behalf of the committee

To consider and comment on the following issues:

The impact of the proposals as they relate to the work of the Adjudication Panel for Wales and the operation of the Members Code of Conduct

Reasons:

The proposals directly impact upon the Adjudication Panel for Wales

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees Jones

Report Author:

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Designations:

Head of Administration and Law

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

STANDARDS COMMITTEE 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023

A NEW TRIBUNAL SYSTEM FOR WALES: WHITE PAPER

On the 19th June 2023 the Welsh Government published a consultation paper on proposed reforms to the devolved tribunals in Wales.

Whilst the impact of the proposals goes far beyond the work of the Adjudication Panel for Wales (APW) the proposal expressly brings it within the scope of the reforms. Paragraph 37 sets out the proposed new structure namely.

A unified tribunal system for Wales comprising 2 new generic tribunals:

- a. **the First-tier Tribunal for Wales**, the tribunal of first instance organised into chambers based on jurisdiction to assume the jurisdictions of the tribunals that will transfer into the new unified structure and to accommodate and preserve judicial expertise, and
- b. **the Appeal Tribunal for Wales**, the appeal tribunal to hear appeals from the First-tier Tribunal for Wales, also organised into chambers as appropriate as appeal jurisdictions are transferred to it and the volume of appeal work develops.

If adopted, this will add an additional layer of appeal compared to the current APW structure.

The White Paper contains 43 consultation questions which can be found at Annex 1 and which for ease of reference have been compiled into a separate document attached to this report.

The deadline for responses is the 2nd October 2023.

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
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: LRJones

Head of Administration and Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – not applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** - not applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** - not applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** - not applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - not applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER AWARE/CONSULTED

N/A

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

There are none.