

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY STANDARDS COMMITTEE 11TH SEPTEMBER 2015

REVISED OMBUDSMANS GUIDANCE

The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales has issued revised Guidance in relation to the Code of Conduct for Members of local authorities in Wales.

A copy of the revised guidance is attached to this report.

The main areas of change from previous versions of the Guidance are;

1. An explanation of the 2 stage test employed by the Ombudsman when determining whether or not to investigate.
2. Further guidance on the use of social media and political expression
3. Further guidance on declarations of interests

As the guidance was published in April 2015 it was taken in to account when preparing and presenting the Code of Conduct training in June of this year.

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: Linda Rees Jones

Head of Administration and Law

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

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

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Legal file	DPSC-136	Legal Services, County Hall