

## 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: Katharine Rees

Name of your Council: Llandeilo Town Council

Email address: [katierees.ltc@gmail.com](mailto:katierees.ltc@gmail.com)

### 2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

1. Matters affecting local businesses
2. Planning, route and effects of proposal for pylons through Carmarthenshire

What is your interest in the above matter?

1. I am the Chair of the Llandeilo Business Forum. I do not have a business myself, and was elected to the position for this reason. I have no bias towards any individual business.
2. I live in a community area that will be affected by the proposed route of the pylons

When will the above matter be considered?

1. This may be seen to affect spending by the town council from time to time on matters that could affect the businesses, grant applications, or possibly funding for certain events.
2. The pylon proposal is unlikely to be part of Town Council Planning matters but will be covered by the community council that covers the area that I live in.

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only:

Speak and vote:  Yes

Make written  
Representations  Yes

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;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation would not damage public confidence	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
• 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"/>

#### 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)***

##### **Llandeilo Business Forum**

I am chair of the local business forum, which has now been meeting for over 6 months. This position was voted on, and as a consequence I was elected. I do not have a business in the town personally, and so do not have a bias towards any particular business. The group has been primarily set up to develop better communication between the businesses of the town and to address any common issues.

I do not receive any financial compensation for this position, and we take no funds or fees from any of the businesses. Any personal expenses incurred are paid from my own finances.

To date, I have attended two council meetings, and there have been no issues on the agenda that directly affect businesses or the forum in general and so have not considered that I have an interest that required a dispensation. I do not envisage many occasions when a dispensation will be required, considering I have a chairing role of the forum but no financial benefit or other personal benefit from that role. All business owners are also able to discuss any matters with any other members of the town council outside of the business forum.

##### **Llandeilo Community Pylon Group**

I have recently become part of the Llandeilo Community Pylon Steering Group, which has been set up to coordinate action and keep the community updated on developments related to the proposal to install pylons along the Towy Valley, by Bute Energy.

I do not receive any financial compensation for my role in the steering group.

*(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. / [Monitoringofficer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Monitoringofficer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

## 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.

Para.	Type of personal interest	
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)(b)	Council business in which there may be a conflict between your decision-making role and your role in representing constituents in your ward	
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 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.