

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE
21/11/2022**

| DISPENSATIONS GUIDANCE | | |
|---|--|--|
| Recommendations / key decisions required: To consider the nature and scope of dispensations that are granted in cases where the member's interest is broad in character | | |
| Reasons: The granting of dispensations forms part of the committee's remit | | |
| Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted NO | | |
| Include date of Cttee (if known and any observations here <u>or</u> within the Consultations section) | | |
| Cabinet Decision Required NO | | |
| Council Decision Required YES | | |
| CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: - Councillor Linda Evans | | |
| Directorate: Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones Report Author: Robert Edgecombe | Designations: Head of Administration and Law Legal Services Manager | Tel: 01267 224018 Email addresses: rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk |

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
21/11/22**

DISPENSATIONS GUIDANCE

During the meeting of the committee in June 2022 dispensation requests were considered in relation to

- Farming and Agricultural matters generally
- The provision of social care services in Carmarthenshire and across the South West Wales Region

Committee members have asked for further guidance in relation to such dispensation requests given how wide ranging they can be in nature, scope, and effect.

The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 offer no guidance on this issue, merely setting out the grounds upon which a dispensation may be granted.

Guidance issued by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales on the members code of conduct states at paragraph 3.64

“The Standards Committee will need to balance the public interest in preventing members with prejudicial interests from taking part in decisions, against the public interest in decisions being taken by a reasonably representative group of members of the authority”

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: LRees-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: L Rees-Jones

HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION AND LAW

1. Scrutiny Committee None

2. Local Member(s) None

3. Community / Town Council All Town and Community Councils have been consulted as outlined in the Executive Summary

4. Relevant Partners None

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations None

**CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S)
AWARE/CONSULTED**

No

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

| Title of Document | File Ref No. | Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|
| Legal Department File | DPSC-200 | County Hall |