

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

15th October, 2008

Chairman: Mr.G.T.Pullen

Vice Chairman: Mrs.L.J.Rees

Independent Member: Mrs.J.E.Howells

NPTCBC Members: Councillors E.Loaring and A.J.Taylor

**Community Councillor M.Evans
Committee Member:**

Officer in Attendance: D.Michael

1. MEMBER'S DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The following Member made a declaration of interest at the commencement of the meeting:-

Councillor A.J.Taylor - Minute No. 4 in respect of Councillor Mrs.M.A.Lewis (reapplication for dispensation) – due to his acquaintance with that Councillor.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the 15th August, 2008, be accepted as a true record.

Report of the Monitoring Officer

3. **TRAINING FOR COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS AND FOR MEMBERS OF TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The Committee received the above report which outlined the proposals for training sessions for County Borough Council Members, Co-opted Members and Town and Community Council Members. This training would relate to the new provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct.

The Chair of the Standards Committee indicated the importance of this training and urged that all Members attend these events as the opportunities arose.

RESOLVED: that further training sessions be held for Councillors, Co-opted Members and any other representatives who have not already received the above training.

4. **GRANT OF DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 81(4) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 – NPT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS IN RESPECT OF MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILY EMPLOYED BY THE COUNCIL**

(Councillor A.J.Taylor had disclosed an interest in this matter at the commencement of the meeting and left the room during the discussion and voting thereon)

RESOLVED: that the undermentioned Members of Council be granted dispensation to speak and vote at meetings of the Council and its Committees, in respect of the matters given in the above circulated report, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the report – each dispensation to expire on the 31st August, 2009:-

Councillor Mrs.B.Richards - Son and his partner – employed by Environment Services

- *Councillor Mrs.M.A.Lewis - Niece – employed by Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services
- *Councillor Mrs.M.A.Lewis - Daughter-in-law – employed by Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services
- *Councillor A.Llewelyn - Wife – employed by Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services
- *Councillor J.D.Morgan - Wife – employed by Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Services.

(*re-applications)

5. **ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY SECRETARIES AND SOLICITORS STANDARDS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Committee noted the update in respect of the Annual Conference for Monitoring Officers and Chairs and Vice Chairs of Standards Committees in Wales. Details of the formal speeches delivered by a variety of different speakers of some seniority were contained in the circulated report.

The Conference concluded with three Monitoring Officers sharing their experience of the new Code, together with some workshop sessions and particular issues.

RESOLVED: that the above report be noted.

CHAIRMAN