

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

23rd November, 2012

Independent Members: Mrs.J.E.Howells, G.T.Pullen, C.L.Jones and
Mrs.B.Richards

NPTCNC Member: Councillor S.Jones

Officers in Attendance: D.Michael and Mrs.T.Davies

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2012/13**

RESOLVED: that Mr. G.T.Pullen be appointed Chairman of the Standards Committee for 2012/13.

2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2012/13**

RESOLVED: that Mrs.J.E.Howells be appointed Vice Chairman of the Standards Committee for 2012/13.

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the 13th April 2012, be accepted as a true record.

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Planning Protocol

Members noted that following a few minor changes by the Standards Committee, the Planning Protocol had subsequently been adopted by the Planning and Development Control Committee and Council.

Members Induction Programme

Members were pleased to note that training would be provided for Standards Committee Members regarding dealing with Hearings etc. This would hopefully take place before Christmas or early in the New Year, and all Members would be welcome to attend.

Report of the Head of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer

5. STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Members were pleased to welcome the two new Independent Members appointed to the Standards Committee, following a recommendation to Council on 7th November 2012, from the Statutory Panel.

Members also discussed the option of appointing a new Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Member to the Committee.

RESOLVED: that the appointments of Mr.C.L.Jones and Mrs.B.Richards, be noted.

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

RESOLVED: that the list of Member dispensations set out in the circulated report, as given as Appendix 1 hereto be approved in the circumstances set out in Regulation 2(d) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001, and that the Members listed in that Appendix be granted dispensation to speak and vote at meetings of the Council and its Committees, in respect of the matters given in the circulated report, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the circulated report. These dispensations to run to the Standards Committee meeting which follows the Annual Meeting of Council 2013.

7. **MISCELLANEOUS DISPENSATIONS**

RESOLVED: that the applications for dispensations set out in the circulated report and as given in Appendix 2 hereto, be approved in the circumstances set out in Regulations 2(d) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 – to speak and vote, or to speak only if appropriate. These dispensations to run to the Standards Committee which follows the Annual Meeting of Council 2013.

8. **GENERAL GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS – SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

RESOLVED: that the general dispensation previously granted to all Members who are school governors be further granted in the circumstances set out in Regulation 2(d), (e) and (g) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to speak and vote on education issues, including the Strategic Schools Improvement Programme.

9. **APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 81(4) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 – COUNCILLOR A.LLEWELYN**

The Committee considered an application for dispensation from Councillor Alun Llewelyn, as contained in the circulated report, which was a new application of a type which had not been granted before. It was noted that Councillor Llewelyn is presently the parent of a child at Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera and a former parent at Ysgol Y Wern. Full details were set out in Annex 1 to the circulated report. Members noted that the Monitoring Officer declared a personal interest in that he is the parent of a child who attends the Sixth Form of Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera.

RESOLVED: that, having considered the above report, a dispensation be granted in the circumstances set out in Regulation 2(d), (e) and (g) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to Councillor A.Llewelyn to speak only and not vote on the Strategic Schools

Improvement Programme relating to Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera and Ysgol Y Wern Ystalyfera. The dispensation to run to the Standards Committee which follows the Annual Meeting of Council 2013 but be subject to interim review, which will be reviewed at a subsequent meeting of the Standards Committee.

10. **PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12**

Members were given an overview of the Annual Report of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, for the year 2011/12.

Members discussed the need for further training for all Members.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

11. **ADJUDICATION PANEL FOR WALES ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012**

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

CHAIRMAN

APPENDIX 1

Grant of Dispensations under Section 81(4) Local Government Act 2000: Employment - Applications

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Employment Dispensation</u>
H.M.Bebell	His niece is employed in Environment Services as a Project Co-ordinator
Mrs.P.Bebell	Her niece is employed in Environment Services as a Project Co-ordinator
D.W.Davies	His sister-in-law is employed as a Nursery Nurse
I.B.James	His wife is employed as a permanent parking attendant
Mrs.L.H.James	Her daughter-in-law is employed as a permanent parking attendant
E.V.Latham	His son is employed as a Parks Attendant
Mrs.M.A.Lewis	Her daughter-in-law is employed as a Support Teacher
A.Llewelyn	His wife is employed as a Teacher
J.D.Morgan	His wife is employed as a Teaching Assistant
P.A.Rees	His daughter-in-law is employed as a School Clerk
P.D.Richards	His wife is employed as a Specialist Behavioural Outreach Worker
J.Rogers	1. His daughter is employed as a Teaching Assistant 2. His son is employed as an Admin Officer

D. Whitelock

1. His wife is employed as a mobile cleaner in the Environment Directorate
2. His daughter works at Cwmavon School as a lunch time supervisor

A.N. Woolcock

His niece is employed as a Training and Development Support Officer

APPENDIX 2

Applications for Dispensations: Miscellaneous Circumstances set out in Regulation 2(d) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001

<u>Member</u>	<u>Subject of Dispensation</u>	<u>Extent of Requested Dispensation</u>
A.P.H.Davies	When One Voice Wales is under consideration in Coedffranc Community Council or NPTCBC meetings	Speak and Vote
A.Llewelyn	1. Ystalyfera Development Trust	Speak and Vote
	2. Strategic housing matters even when they relate to housing association	Speak only
J.Miller	1. Employment in ABMU - LHB	Speak
	2. Melyn Community Conference	Speak and Vote
Mrs.S.Miller	1. Employment in ABMU - LHB	Speak
	2. Melyn Community Conference	Speak and Vote
P.D.Richards	1. To speak and vote on matters relating to the Youth Offending Panel	Speak and Vote

2. To speak only and not vote on matters of general, commercial and retail development, subject to the condition that the dispensation will not apply to any planning application by or transaction with the Co-operative Group, or with any subsidiary or related enterprise
- Speak only