

## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)**

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

**Members Present:**

**31<sup>st</sup> October, 2008**

**Chairman:** Mr.G.T.Pullen

**Vice Chairman:** Mrs.L.J.Rees

**Independent Member:** Mrs.J.Howells

**NPTCBC Member:** Councillor E.Loaring

**Community**

**Committee Member:** Councillor M.Evans

**Officers in Attendance:** B.Thorne, P.Watkins and Miss A.M.Farrell

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### **Report of the Monitoring Officer**

1. **GRANT OF DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 81(4) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 – NEATH PORT TALBOT PAY REVIEW 2008**

The Committee was informed that the Authority was in the process of a Pay Review/Job Evaluation exercise involving all its employees. This matter would be considered at a forthcoming Special Cabinet Scrutiny Committee/Special Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> November with a final decision being made by Council at a Special meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November. At this meeting, Council would be asked to approve a new NPT Pay Structure, alongside a package of other proposals relating to pay and conditions of service. The Committee was circulated with details of the recommendations to Council.

To enable those Councillors who had members of their families employed by the Authority, to participate in the above discussions, the Standards Committee was asked to consider granting dispensation as outlined in the circulated report.

The Committee also received a separate application for dispensation from Councillor Mrs.S.Miller, a member and Trade Union Shop Steward of UNISON in the Health Service, whose current dispensation was not wide enough to allow her to speak and vote at the aforementioned meetings/Seminar.

**RESOLVED:** (a) that, in respect of the meetings of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet and Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2008, and the forthcoming Members' Seminar, where the matter of NPT Pay Review/Job Evaluation would be considered, dispensation be granted to all Members who have a relative working for this Authority, to speak and vote - subject to the provision that the relatives concerned cannot be identified from the Officer reports to those meetings; this dispensation being granted for the reason given below:-

“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”;

(b) that the application for dispensation in respect of Councillor Mrs.S.Miller to speak and vote at the above mentioned meetings/Seminar be not granted.

**CHAIRMAN**