

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES MR. D. MICHAEL

10TH OCTOBER 2014

SECTION A – MATTER FOR DECISION

WARD(S) AFFECTED:

All

APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION

Purpose of Report

To seek Members' approval to consider granting a dispensation to a Member in relation to School Reorganisation matters.

Background

Earlier this year the Standards Committee granted a number of applications for dispensations from a number of Members regarding school reorganisation matters. Now a new set of school reorganisation matters are before the Council involving a set of schools which had previously been unaffected. A special Standards Committee was scheduled to deal with applications for dispensation for those affected but no applications were received

I have now however received an application from Councillor D. W. Davies whose sister in law is employed as a nursery nurse at Tonmawr Primary School. An employment dispensation has previously been granted to Councillor Davies but he did not apply for a dispensation to cover school reorganisation matters.

Where Members have interests such as a relative working at a school a dispensation has been granted to speak but not to vote.

The standard form of dispensation used in this case would be:-

“To speak but not vote on issues which relate to school reorganisation”

The circumstances under which the dispensation would be granted would be:-

“(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”.

Note:- This paragraph derives from Regulation 2 of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001.

The dispensation would last until the Standards Committee following the Annual Meeting 2015.

Appendices

None

Recommendation

That Standards Committee considers the granting of a dispensation to Councillor D. W. Davies in the terms referred to above.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

To secure compliance with the Council’s adopted Members’ Code of Conduct and to ensure the proper dispatch of the Council’s business.

List of Background Papers

Application for Dispensation.

Officer Contact

Mr. David Michael – Head of Legal Services

Tel No: 01639 763368

Email: d.michael@npt.gov.uk