

Promoting Compliance With the Code of Conduct

Report by:	Councillor Alun Llewelyn		
Political Group:	Plaid Cymru		
No. of members:	11	No. trained on Code:	11 (100%)
For the period:	1 st April 2023 to 31 st March 2024		

Number, Source and Level of Complaints

	Informal	Local Resolution (Stage)			PSOW
		1	2	3	
Public	2 (Advised to refer the matter to PSOW)	-	-	-	1 (No further action by PSOW)
Officers	-	-	-	-	-
Councillors	1 (No further action taken following discussion with member)	-	-	-	-

Steps taken to Promote Compliance (To Be Completed by Group Leader)

- I demonstrate a personal commitment by attending relevant development or training around equalities and standards either in person or online. By keeping abreast of the training or refresher sessions I can advise other members of the group on the importance of attending their own relevant training.
I also regularly read the reports of the Standards Committee and Public Service Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW).
- Following the May 2022 election I encouraged both new and returning group members to attend induction training specifically on equalities and standards as well as more general induction sessions, marketplace events etc to be aware of the work and structures of the local authority. I draw the group's attention to updates and continuous training opportunities.
- It is made clear that nominees to a Committee should receive the recommended training for that Committee. I liaise periodically with senior officers, the Monitoring Officer and Democratic Services if there are any concerns about members non-attendance for training or committee meetings. A review of administration issues is conducted on annual basis for approval at the Annual Meeting of Council.

- To promote civility and respect within group communications and meetings and in formal Council meetings, I encourage group members to raise concerns with myself or in group meetings so that issues can be resolved and standards maintained. I will also address any concerns raised eg contents of social media messages.
- To promote informal resolution procedures in the Council, and work with the Standards Committee and monitoring officers to achieve local resolution, I have met with the Monitoring Officer and individual group members who have been subject of complaints by members of the public. The nature of the complaint, responses, and lessons learned were discussed. None of the complaints led to action by the PSOW.
- To promote a culture within the group which supports high standards of conduct and integrity, I encouraged all group members to attend the Members Code of Conduct refresher session, last held in June 2023. I also share advice and information from the Monitoring Officer eg. compliance with pre-election period guidance, pre-determination guidance etc.
- I have attended a meeting of the Council's Standards Committee as requested to discuss Code of Conduct issues. I will work to implement any recommendations from the Standards Committee about improving standards, and see leadership on standards as a key part of my group-leader role.
- I work together with other group leaders to collectively support high standards of conduct within the Council such as scheduled meetings with the Chief Executive or Monitoring Officer to discuss common issues.