

**CYNGOR GWYNEDD
STANDARDS COMMITTEE DECISION NOTICE**

(Section 100C of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020)

18 April 2023

Virtual Meeting

Attendance:

Elected Members: Councillors Anne Lloyd-Jones, Beth Lawton and Dewi Owen

Independent Members: Mr Aled Jones, Mr Hywel Eifion Jones (Chair), Mr Mark Jones and Mr David Wareing

Community Committee Member: Mr Richard Parry Hughes

Also in attendance: On behalf of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales – Katrin Shaw (Chief Legal Adviser & Director of Investigations) and Sarah Jones (Investigating Officer); Cyngor Gwynedd Officers - Sion Huws (Propriety and Elections Manager / Deputy Monitoring Officer) and Eirian Roberts (Democratic Services Officer).

The Member who is the subject of the complaint: Councillor Louise Hughes

The Complainant: Howard Huws (As a witness)

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Date of STANDARDS COMMITTEE Meeting	18 April, 2023
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SUBJECT

Item 3: ALLEGATION OF A BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT REFERRED TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE BY THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES

DECISION

- **In relation to the allegations of a breach of the code, the committee resolved that the Member has failed to comply with Cyngor Gwynedd's Members' Code of Conduct in the following way as she breached the following provisions:**
 - 4(a) **Members must carry out their duties and responsibilities with due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people, regardless of their gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, age or religion.**
 - 4(b) **Members must show respect and consideration for others.**
 - 6(1)(a) **Members must not conduct themselves in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing their office or authority into disrepute.**
 - **After weighing up the seriousness of the behaviour in question and after considering the relevant mitigating and aggravating factors, the Committee decided that the Member should be suspended from being a member of Cyngor Gwynedd for a period of 1 month.**
 - **That the Committee expects the Member to take advantage of any training opportunities offered by the Council in the future, which relate to the conduct of members.**
 - **That the Member should write to the Complainant within 3 weeks (from the date of receipt of the notice) to apologise for her behaviour (with a copy sent to the Monitoring Officer).**
 - **To recommend to Cyngor Gwynedd that it should consider whether support could be provided to members in relation to correspondence they receive in a language they do not understand, either internally or by referring members to other appropriate sources.**
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DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.
