

<b>MEEETING</b>	<b>Standards Committee</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>26 June 2023</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Self Assessment and Work Programme</b>
<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>Monitoring Officer.</b>

1. There are two aims in this report namely undertake a assessment of the work and outcomes of the Committee for 2022-23 and consider a draft work programme for 2023-24
  
2. The terms of reference of the Standards Committee has been established through statute in the Councils Constitution and it is timely that that the Committee perhaps considers them anew at the beginning of a new term so as to prepare a work plan for the year..
  - (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Councillors and co-opted Members of the Authority;
  - (b) assisting the Councillors and co-opted Members to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (c) advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (d) monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (e) advising, training or arranging to train Councillors and co-opted Members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (f) Exercise the relevant above functions in relation to community councils  
  
and these specific functions—
  - (g) monitoring compliance by leaders of political groups on the council with their duties under section 52A(1) Local Government Act 2000;
  - (h) advising, training or arranging to train leaders of political groups on the council about matters relating to those duties.
  
3. The Committee members are asked to consider the functions listed in the first column and then note which assessment they believe is relevant, using the following categories :

Category 1 – That the Committee has made significant progress in achieving the function or in the case of specific tasks that the need to act has not arisen.

Category 2 – That the Committee has substantially implemented the function.

Category 3 – That the Committee has acted in the function but there is a need to give further attention.

Category 4 – There is no evidence that the Committee has actioned the function and there is a basis for concluding that the area needs attention.

4. It is necessary to note the evidence which supports the category which the Committee awards. The column "Evidence" shows some examples of evidence, but it is possible that the Committee members are able to add to it.
5. By assigning a category to each function and noting the evidence, it is possible for the Committee to come to a conclusion regarding which further steps they need to take (if any). The last column contains some suggestions for further steps. These are the matters which will be fed through to the Committee work programme in the future.

## **Appendices**

In Appendix 1 there is a draft self assessment for the committees consideration

In Appendix 2 a draft work programme for 2023-24

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Committee is asked to undertake a self assessment of its performance in 2022-23 and approve the work programme for 2023-24**

## APPENDIX 1

### SELF ASSESSMENT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE 2022-23

FUNCTION	ASSESSMENT (1/2/3/4)	Evidence	Further Action
Promote and maintain a high standard of conduct amongst members		<p>The Chair attended the Wales Standards Forum to share experiences with other standards committees.</p> <p>Presentation of the Annual Report to the Full Council.</p> <p>Presentation of a Report on the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021</p>	Continue to attend and support
Assist the members to keep to the Code of Conduct		The Monitoring Officer and his team provide advice and guidance in meetings and on a one to one basis.	Resume training when resources allow
Advise the Council regarding adopting or amending the Code of Conduct		There were no instances where a need to amend the code arose.	
Monitor the operation of the Code of Conduct		<p>Receive regular reports on allegations against members</p> <p>Receive the annual reports of the Adjudication Panel for Wales and the Ombudsman</p> <p>The Committee resolved to initiate work in relation</p>	<p>Continue to monitor.</p> <p>Receive regular reports on the Ombudsman's Code of Conduct Casebook.</p> <p>Receive annual reports on the</p>

		to the duties placed on Political Group Leaders in relation to the conduct of their members.	declaration of interests register.
Advise, train or arrange training for members on matters relating to the Code of Conduct		Induction training was provided for all members of the Council following the election	Consider new training for Council Members.
Grant dispensations to members			
Deal with reports of tribunals and any reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters referred by the Ombudsman		The Committee dealt with one hearing during the year in relation to a Town Council member referred to it by the Ombudsman	
Authorise the Monitoring Officer to pay allowances to persons assisting with an investigation			
Monitoring compliance by leaders of political groups on the council with their duties under section 52A(1) Local Government Act 2000;  Advising, training or arranging to train leaders of political groups on the council about matters relating to those duties.		The Monitoring Officer contacted group Leaders prior to the election to highlight the duty and the consultation on the draft Guidance.  The Leaders were provided with training on the new duty and the Committee adopted an agreed protocol in relation to the duty,	
Exercise the relevant above functions in relation to community councils		The Monitoring Officer and his team provide advice and guidance to councils, members and clerks.	Pilot course held with Tywyn Town Council with positive feedback.



## ATODIAD 2/ APPENDIX 2

<b>Gwaith Pwyllgor Safonau 2023/2024</b>	<b>Standards Committee Work –2023/24</b>
<p><b>25 Mehefin 2023</b></p> <p>Adroddiad Blynyddol</p> <p>Honiadau yn erbyn aelodau</p> <p>Llyfr Achosion yr Ombwdsman</p> <p>Ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cymru ar ymateb i Adroddiad Penn</p>	<p><b>26 June 2023</b></p> <p>Annual Report</p> <p>Allegations Against Members</p> <p>Ombudsman’s Code of Conduct Casebook</p> <p>Consultation on the Welsh Government Response to the Penn Report.</p>
<p><b>6 Tachwedd 2023</b></p> <p>Cofrestr Rhoddion a Lletygarwch</p> <p>Cofrestr Datgan Buddiant</p> <p>Adroddiad Blynyddol yr Ombwdsman</p> <p>Honiadau yn erbyn Aelodau</p> <p>Adolygu gweithrediad Protocol Arweinyddion Grwpiau Gwleidyddol</p> <p>Adolygu trefniadau datrysiad Mewnol</p> <p>Derbyn adroddiad o Fforwm Safonau Cymru</p> <p>Adroddiad ar y trefniadau ar gyfer delio gyda cyfathrebu wedi gwrandawiadau,</p>	<p><b>6 November 2023</b></p> <p>Gifts and Hospitality Register</p> <p>Declaration of Interest Registers</p> <p>Ombudsman’s Annual Report</p> <p>Allegations Against Members</p> <p>Review the operation of the Group Leaders Protocol</p> <p>Review the internal resolution procedures</p> <p>Receive report from the Wales Standards Forum</p> <p>Report on the arrangements for dealing with communications post hearings</p>

**19 Chwefror 2024**

Adroddiad Blynyddol y Panel  
Dyfarnu

Honiadau yn erbyn aelodau

Hunan Asesiad a Rhaglen Waith

Adroddiad Blynyddol y Pwyllgor

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**19 February 2024**

Annual Report of Adjudication Panel

Allegations against members

Self-Assessment and Work Programme

Annual Report of the Committee