

**Gareth Owens LL.B Barrister/Bargyfreithiwr**  
Chief Officer (Governance)  
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)



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To: Julia Hughes (Chair)

Councillors: Gladys Healey, Patrick Heesom and Arnold Woolley

**Co-opted Members:**

Jonathan Duggan-Keen, Phillipa Earlam, Jacqueline Guest, Mark Morgan and Gill Murgatroyd

26 October 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING**  
**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
**MONDAY, 1 NOVEMBER, 2021 at 6.30 PM**

**Please note that a training session on the Role of the Standards Committee will be held prior to the start of the meeting from 6.00pm to 6.30pm.**

Yours faithfully

Robert Robins  
Democratic Services Manager

Please note: This will be a remote meeting only. It is a joint meeting with all the Town and Community Councils of Flintshire who are welcome to send representatives. The Chair will encourage such representatives to participate in the meeting, and will invite them to speak if they wish to do so.

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire-public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

# AGENDA

## 1 APOLOGIES

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

**Purpose:** To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

## 3 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)

**Purpose:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2021

## ITEMS FOR DECISION

## 4 DISPENSATIONS (Pages 9 - 12)

**Purpose:** To receive requests for dispensations from Councillor Clive Carver and Mrs Pauline Carver.

Members of the press/public will be able to remain at the meeting whilst an application for dispensation is presented to the Committee and will be able to return to hear the Committee's decision. However, under Paragraph 18C Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 the Committee will exclude the press and public from the meeting whilst it deliberates on any application for a dispensation.

## 5 PENN REVIEW OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS FRAMEWORK (Pages 13 - 20)

**Purpose:** To share the report prepared by Richard Penn following his review of the Ethical Standards Framework and WG's response (if available)

## 6 STANDARDS FORUM PRE-BRIEFING (Pages 21 - 24)

**Purpose:** To make Members aware of the proposed programme of the Conference.

## **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

### **7 ITEMS RAISED BY TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

- Purpose:** To discuss any ethical issues or the work of the Standards Committee raised by Town and Community Councils.
- (a) The general power of competence under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and how it applies to town and community councils (verbal presentation)

### **8 OVERVIEW OF ETHICAL COMPLAINTS (Pages 25 - 36)**

- Purpose:** That the Committee notes the number and type of complaints.

### **9 PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES (PSOW) ANNUAL LETTER (Pages 37 - 50)**

- Purpose:** To share the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) Annual Letter 2020/21

### **10 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 51 - 52)**

- Purpose:** For the Committee to consider topics to be included on the attached Forward Work Programme.

***Please note that there may be a 10 minute adjournment of this meeting if it lasts longer than two hours***

## **Procedural Note on the conduct of meetings**

The Chair will open the meeting and introduce themselves.

The meeting will be attended by a number of Councillors. Officers will also be in attendance to present reports, with Democratic Services officers acting as hosts of the meeting.

All attendees are asked to ensure their mobile phones are switched off and that any background noise is kept to a minimum.

All microphones are to be kept muted during the meeting and should only be unmuted when invited to speak by the Chair. When invitees have finished speaking they should go back on mute.

To indicate to speak, Councillors will use the chat facility or use the electronic raise hand function. The chat function may also be used for questions, relevant comments and officer advice and updates.

The Chair will call the speakers, with elected Members addressed as 'Councillor' and officers addressed by their job title e.g. Chief Executive' or name. From time to time, the officer advising the Chair will explain procedural points or suggest alternative wording for proposals, to assist the Committee.

If and when a vote is taken, the Chair will explain that only those who oppose the proposal(s), or who wish to abstain will need to indicate, using the chat function. The officer advising the Chair will indicate whether the proposals are carried.

If a more formal vote is needed, this will be by roll call – where each Councillor will be asked in turn (alphabetically) how s/he wishes to vote

At County Council and Planning Committee meetings speaker's times are limited. A bell will be sounded to alert that the speaker has one minute remaining

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>