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CEREDIGION
County Council

Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa,
Aberaeron, Ceredigion SA46 0PA
ceredigion.gov.uk

03/03/2025

Lisa Evans

01545574177

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to inform you that a Special Meeting of the Ethics and Standards Committee will be held HYBRID - NEUADD CYNGOR CEREDIGION, PENMORFA, ABERAERON / REMOTELY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE on Friday, 7 March 2025 at 2.30 pm for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Apologies**
2. **Chair Announcements**
3. **Declaration of personal / prejudicial interest**
4. **To consider the following applications for dispensation:**
5. **Councillor Matthew Vaux, Barcud Development (Pages 3 - 10)**
6. **To confirm minutes of the previous meeting and to consider any matters arising from those minutes (Pages 11 - 14)**
7. **To consider any other applications for dispensation received since the agenda was published**

Members are reminded to sign the Attendance Register

A Translation Services will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Edwards'.

Miss Lowri Edwards
Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services

To: Chairman and Members of Ethics and Standards Committee

The remaining Members of the Council for information only.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

APPLICATION TO THE ETHICS & STANDARDS COMMITTEE FOR DISPENSATION

Information

Please refer to the flowchart which will provide further guidance regarding the need for dispensation.

Members should also be aware of the Code of Conduct and its contents. If you are in any doubt, please contact the Monitoring Officer.

Please ensure that **ONLY ONE** matter is used per form, if there are multiple matters (different cases) please use separate forms.

If you require dispensation for both Town/Community Council **AND** County Council you must use **separate** forms for each application.

Please send this completed form to:

ethicsandstandards@ceredigion.gov.uk / moesegasafonau@ceredigion.llyw.cymru

Ethics and Standards
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion
Penmorfa
Aberaeron
Ceredigion
SA46 0PA
Tel: 01545 570881

For any further guidance or advice, please contact:

Monitoring Officer - Elin Prysor
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion,
Penmorfa,
Aberaeron,
Ceredigion,
SA46 0PA

MonitoringOfficer@ceredigion.gov.uk / SwyddogMonitro@ceredigion.gov.uk



**APPLICATION TO THE ETHICS & STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FOR DISPENSATION**

Please note that each section **MUST** be completed. Please refer to the attached Guidance Notes when completing the form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name: Matthew Vaux

Council:

County:

Town/Community:

Name of your Council: Ceredigion CC

Ward: New Quay & Llanllwchaearn

Email address: matthew.vaux@ceredigion.llyw.cymru

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter being discussed by the Council?

Planning application on land at central car park, New Quay by Barcud.

Describe your prejudicial interest in the above matter, including your connection with it:

I own a fish and chip takeaway and restaurant in New Quay which relies on the tourism trade during the summer season. The loss of parking would negatively effect my business, and on the other hand the increase in low earning families could benefit my business as we are the cheaper food option in the town.

Where will the above matter be considered? (e.g. Cabinet, County Council, Town/Community Council)

County- Council

County- Cabinet

County- Committee

Town /Community

**Other
(Please specify)**

Under which paragraph of the Members Code of Conduct (20th May 2016 edition) does your interest fall?

Paragraph 10 (2) (a) it relates to, or is likely to affect —

(i) any employment or business carried on by you;

(ii) any person who employs or has appointed you, any firm in which you are a partner or any company for which you are a remunerated director;

(iii) any person, other than your authority, who has made a payment to you in respect of your election or any expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a member;

(iv) any corporate body which has a place of business or land in your authority's area, and in which you have a beneficial interest in a class of securities of that body that exceeds the nominal value of £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body;

(v) any contract for goods, services or works made between your authority and you or a firm in which you are a partner, a company of which you are a remunerated director, or a body of the description specified in sub-paragraph (iv) above;

(vi) any land in which you have a beneficial interest and which is in the area of your authority;

(vii) any land where the landlord is your authority and the tenant is a firm in which you are a partner, a company of which you are a remunerated director, or a body of the description specified in sub-paragraph (iv) above;

(viii) any body to which you have been elected, appointed or nominated by your authority;

(ix) any —

(aa) public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature;

(bb) company, industrial and provident society, charity, or body directed to charitable purposes;

(cc) body whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy;

(dd) trade union or professional association; or

(ee) private club, society or association operating within your authority's area, in which you have membership or hold a position of general control or management;

(x) any land in your authority's area in which you have a licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy for 28 days or longer;

Paragraph 10 (2) (b) a decision upon it might reasonably be regarded as affecting —

(i) your well-being or financial position, or that of a person with whom you live, or any person with whom you have a close personal association;

(ii) any employment or business carried on by persons as described in 10(2)(b)(i);

(iii) any person who employs or has appointed such persons described in 10(2)(b)(i), any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;

(iv) any corporate body in which persons as described in 10(2)(b)(i) have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £5,000; or

(v) anybody listed in paragraphs 10(2)(a)(ix)(aa) to (ee) in which persons described in 10(2)(b)(i) hold a position of general control or management, to a greater extent than the majority of—

(aa) in the case of an authority with electoral divisions or wards, other council tax payers, rate payers or inhabitants of the electoral division or ward, as the case may be, affected by the decision; or

(bb) in all other cases, other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the authority's area.

Paragraph 13 You also have a prejudicial interest in any business before an overview and scrutiny committee of your authority (or of a sub-committee of such a committee) where —

(a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by your authority's executive, board or another of your authority's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and

(b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken, you were a member of the executive, board, committee, sub-committee, joint-committee or joint sub-committee mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) and you were present when that decision was made or action was taken.

3. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please provide additional (background/ factual) information in order to clarify/explain your interest further, and assist the committee considering this dispensation application.

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

My business could be affected by the loss of parking, but some may think it could also benefit our business from the increased housing in New Quay. Ultimately, I believe it will be a negative impact due to the loss of parking during the peak season. With a strong feeling within the town and a need for opinions of those with businesses and living in New Quay to be expressed I feel as their elected member I should be able to voice these concerns.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

4. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

The **Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001** prescribe the circumstances in which the Ethics & Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. The grounds for granting a dispensation are set out below.

On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

(a) no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	<input type="checkbox"/>
(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;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(e) the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(f) the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business; or	<input type="checkbox"/>

(i) it appears to the committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the relevant authority that the disability should be removed provided that written notification of the grant of the dispensation is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify	<input type="checkbox"/>
(j) it appears to the committee to be otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION- FURTHER INFORMATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Ethics & Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case (i.e. Please explain how and why you consider that one of the grounds for dispensation is/are satisfied)

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

I believe I should be granted dispensation so that I can represent the businesses of New Quay that have very valid concerns. I have also been approached by many residents who have concerns. These all need representation and as their elected member I feel I should be able to fulfil this.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

6. REQUEST

Are you applying for dispensation to speak only or to speak and vote?

Speak Only:

Speak and Vote:

Please provide a reason for this:

7. DURATION

What is the requested duration for this dispensation?

Specific:

Specific Meeting(s):

Please specify meeting date(s): Development management committee

General:

6 months:

12 months:

8. DECLARATION

I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Ethics and Standards Committee.

Signed:

m.vaux

Date:

20/02/2025

Please return this form to:

Ethics and Standards
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion
Penmorfa
Aberaeron
Ceredigion
SA46 0PA
Tel: 01545 570881

ethicsandstandards@ceredigion.gov.uk / moesegasafonau@ceredigion.llyw.cymru

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Minutes of the Meeting of ETHICS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE held Hybrid at Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron / remotely via video conference on Wednesday, 08 January 2025

PRESENT: Miss Caryl Davies (Chair)

Mr Alan Davies, Ms Carol Edwards, Mrs Llinos James & Ms Gail Storr (Independent Members)

Councillor Caryl Roberts and Gwyn Wigley Evans (Elected County Members)
Cllr Delyth James and Elen Page (Town & Community Representative)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms Elin Prysor (Monitoring Officer)

Mrs Lisa Evans (Scrutiny and Standards Officer)

Mrs Dana Jones (Democratic and Standards Officer)

(10:00am-11:00am)

1 Apologies

None.

2 Chair Announcements

None.

3 Declaration of personal / prejudicial interest

None.

4 To confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Ethics & Standards Committee held on 16 October 2024

It was RESOLVED to confirm as a true record of the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2024 subject to minor amendments as follows:-

- To amend chaired *excellent to excellently* by the Leader in the statement by Councillor Elizabeth Evans on page 2
- To change the *code of conduct* to capital letters so reads *Code of Conduct* in relation to the statement by Councillor Keith Evans on page 2 and amend *Councils to Councillors* to attend the Code of Conduct training
- To amend and add the line of the top of the third page of the minutes *The Chair thanked the respective Group Leaders for attending and being open in relation to and offered the Leaders support in the future to The Chair thanked the respective Group Leaders for attending and being open in relation to their work and the Committee offered the Leaders their future support*
- To remove of from the minute of item 5, 6, and 7

- 5 To confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Ethics & Standard Committee held on the 15 November 2024**
It was RESOLVED to confirm as a true record of the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2024.
- 6 Matters Arising**
Matters arising- Minutes 16/10/24
Minute 4-The Chair enquired if the attendance of the Group Leaders at the 15 November meeting was in addition to their annual attendance. It was reported that it had been agreed that the Group Leaders would now attend the October meeting annually rather than January due to diary commitments.
- Minute 13- It was reported that the training for Town and Community Council would also be recorded in order to circulate to Councillors that had not attended via the Clerk to Town and Community Councils.
- Minute 16- It was reported that the Political Group leader's compliance assessment template would be reviewed at the July meeting.
- Matters arising- Minutes 15/11/24**
It was reported that a meeting had been arranged for the 17 January 2025 to review the Hearing Procedure following the recent hearing held.
- 7 Action Log**
It was AGREED to note the content of the Action Log as presented.
- 8 Update on Adjudication Panel for Wales matters**
It was AGREED to note the content.
- 9 Quarterly report on trends of complaints Quarter 3, 2024/25**
It was AGREED to note the content.
- 10 The Public Services Ombudsman update**
It was AGREED to note the content together with the note from Public Services Ombudsman for Wales dated 9th December 2024 that deals with the approach to sharing PSOW decisions not to investigate Code of Conduct complaints received based on the provisions of S69(2) of the Local Government Act 2000.
This information would also be circulated by the Monitoring Officer to the Group Leaders.
- 11 PSOW Consultation re appropriate time to notify Councillors if a complaint is received**
Consideration was given to the PSOW consultation and the responses received.
It was AGREED that:

i) the responses would be referred to the Corporate Consultation Members Panel in order that a collective response from the Council would be presented to PSOW.

12 ESC self-evaluation

Consideration was given to the ESC self-evaluation.

It was AGREED that :

i)Members would send amended questions/support notes for the questionnaire to the Scrutiny Support and Standards Officer; for consideration by the Committee

13 Forward Work Programme

It was AGREED to note the content of the Forward Work Programme as presented subject to noting that additional dates for future meeting were now available on the 21 May, 16 July and 15 October 2025.

Items to be considered as follows:-

21 May 2025 - Ethics and Standards Annual Report 2024/25

16 July – Review of Group Leaders compliance template

15 October – Attendance of Group Leaders at meeting and Self Evaluation

It was also reported that a Workshop with Political Group Leaders would be arranged prior to the AGM on the 16 May 2025, and a second held at the end of May, beginning of June. Dates would be arranged in due course.

14 To consider any other applications for dispensation received since the agenda was published

None received.

**Confirmed at the Meeting of the Ethics and Standards Committee held
on 21 May 2025**

Chairman:_____

Date:_____

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