

**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:** \_\_\_\_\_