

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 18TH OCTOBER, 2022

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER

PRESENT: MR R. ALEXANDER (CHAIR)

Mr R. Lynch
Mr S. Williams
Councillor M. Cross
Councillor J. Thomas
Councillor L. Winnett

WITH: Councillor S. Thomas (Leader of the Council)
Councillor J. Wilkins (Leader of the Independent Group)
Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance
(Monitoring Officer)
Data Protection & Governance Officer

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 1	<u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u> No requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.	
No. 2	<u>APOLOGIES</u> The Chair welcomed both Group Leaders to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received for:- Sarah Rosser and Roger Clark	
No. 3	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u> No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.	

<p>No. 4</p>	<p><u>DISCUSSION WITH GROUP LEADERS</u></p> <p>The Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Independent Group outlined their approach to maintain and raise standards within the Council and their respective groups under the new legislation.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that Group Leaders receive a standard invite to attend future meetings of the Standards Committee.</p>	
<p>No. 5</p>	<p><u>STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 19TH JULY, 2022</u></p> <p>The decisions of the Standards Committee held on the 19th July, 2022 were submitted.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion,</p> <p>The Standards Committee AGREED that the decisions be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
<p>No. 6</p>	<p><u>OUTCOME OF APPOINTMENTS PANEL 14TH OCTOBER, 2022</u></p> <p>The Head of Legal & Corporate Compliance advised the Committee of the outcome of the Appointments Panel.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion,</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the Independent member vacancy be readvertised before Christmas.</p>	
<p>No. 7</p>	<p><u>CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL LETTER OF THE OMBUDSMAN (CONDUCT ELEMENT)</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the Annual Letter of the Ombudsman and following a brief discussion,</p> <p>The Standards Committee AGREED that the contents of the Annual Letter of the Ombudsman be noted.</p>	
<p>No. 8</p>	<p><u>FUTURE WORK PLAN/TRAINING REQUIREMENTS</u></p> <p>The following points were raised:-</p> <p>Regular structured meetings</p>	

	Refresher training (especially if new members appointed) Review of Terms of Reference Annual Report	
No. 9	<u>AOB/DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> Next meeting of the Standards Committee – January/February 2023 TBC.	