

# **BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## Standards Committee Annual Report 2021 – 2022

## **1. Introduction**

The Local Government Act 2000 requires Councils to establish a Standards Committee to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and probity in the conduct of Councillors. Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council established a Standards Committee in October 2000.

The Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 introduced a mandatory requirement for Standards Committees to present an annual report to full Council. This statutory report must describe how the Committee has discharged its functions during the previous year and must include a summary of any reports, actions or recommendations made or referred to the Committee. In addition, it should be noted next year's Annual Report must include an assessment of the extent to which leaders of political groups on the Council have complied with their new duties to promote and maintain high standards of conduct within their groups.

This Standards Committee Annual Report covers the period from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

## **2. Membership of the Standards Committee**

(Details of current Members/Chair/Vice Chair etc)

## **3. Terms of Office - Independent Members of the Standards Committee**

(Overview of rules regarding terms of office and details of individuals terms served etc)

## **4. Term of Office - Community / Town Council Member of the Standards Committee**

(As above in 3)

## **5. Meetings of the Standards Committee**

(Dates of meetings in past 12 months)

## **6. Detail of the Work undertaken by the Standards Committee**

6.1 The following paragraphs set out the work carried out by the Standards Committee during the reporting period.

(Detail here eg the number of dispensations considered, PSOW Annual report consideration, any referrals made through the internal local resolution protocol, references to the SC from the PSOW, Adjudication panel hearings re BG or T&CC Members)

#### 6.2 Annual Meeting with Political Group Leaders

(Overview of the new statutory obligations of Group Leaders and method by which SC proposes to hold to account, date of meeting with Group leader and outcome of discussions).

#### 6.3 Complaints of Breach of the Code of Conduct

(Number of complaints and outcome – NB. no details provided of names etc)

6.4 Any recommendations made by the PSOW or Adjudication Panel on findings and actions taken/in progress as a result.

(Details if appropriate or “None”)

### **7. Chair’s comments/conclusions**