



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF**

### **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

#### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**11 MARCH 2022**

#### **ADJUDICATION PANEL FOR WALES – RECENT TRIBUNAL DECISIONS**

#### **INFORMATION REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

##### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To allow Members the opportunity to consider recent decisions made by the Adjudication Panel for Wales (APW).

##### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended the Committee considers the recent decisions made by the Adjudication Panel for Wales (as appended to the report); and
- 2.2 Determines whether there are any possible messages or lessons to be learnt arising out of the decision that could be communicated as part of future training for Members on the Code of Conduct.

##### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The ethical framework set under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 included the establishment of the Adjudication Panel for Wales (APW) as an independent, judicial body with powers to form tribunals to deal with alleged breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct. The operation of the Panel is governed by Regulations issued by the Welsh Government.
- 3.2 The APW issues decision notices following the conclusion of the cases it considers and in that respect Members will find copies of the following decisions appended to the report:

Appendix 1 - APW/001/2021-022/CT – Councillor Jonathan Bishop (Taff's Well & Nantgarw Community Council)

Appendix 2 – APW/005/2021-022/CT – Councillor Perry Morgan (Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council)

Appendix 3 – APW/006/2021-022/CT – Councillor William Roy Owen (Gwynedd Council and Caernarfon Royal Town Council)

Appendix 4 – APW/003/2021-022/AT – Councillor Gareth Baines (Wrexham County Borough Council (Appealing a Standards Committee decision)

3.3 The Committee may find it helpful to consider these decisions and the approach adopted by the APW in formulating its decision and sanctions (where relevant) in light of its own role when conducting Code of Conduct hearings.

3.4 The Committee may also wish to consider whether there are any possible messages or lessons to be learnt arising out of the decisions that could be communicated as part of future training for Members on the Code of Conduct.

**4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

**5. CONSULTATION**

5.1 There are no consultation implications arising from this report.

**6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

**7. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Freestanding Matter**

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