

**NOTICE OF DECISION**

**TRIBUNAL REFERENCE NUMBER:** APW/014/2022-023/CT

**RE: REFERENCE ABOUT ALLEGED BREACHES OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

**RESPONDENT:** Councillor Steve Davies

**RELEVANT AUTHORITIES:** Ceredigion County Council and Aberystwyth Town Council.

1. An Interim Case Tribunal convened by the President of the Adjudication Panel for Wales has considered a reference in respect of the above Respondent.
2. The Interim Case Tribunal must determine if there was prima facie evidence such that it appears that the Respondent has failed to comply with the relevant authorities' Codes of Conduct.
3. The Interim Case Tribunal determined its adjudication on the papers only at a meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 conducted by means of remote attendance technology.
4. The Interim Case Tribunal found by unanimous decision that the prima facie evidence was such that it appears that the Respondent has failed to comply with paragraphs 4(b), 4(c), 6(1)(a) and 7(a) of the relevant authorities' Codes of Conduct in relation to various incidents between March 2020 and January 2023 of the Respondent's alleged inappropriate behaviour towards different women. The Interim Case Tribunal **has not made any findings of fact**; that is a task for the Case Tribunal that will decide the case in due course.
5. The Interim Case Tribunal decided by unanimous decision that the nature of that failure is such as to be likely to lead to disqualification under section 79(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 2000.
6. The Interim Case Tribunal decided by unanimous decision that it is in the public interest to suspend or partially suspend the Respondent Councillor immediately.
7. The Interim Case Tribunal has decided that the Respondent should be suspended from being a member or a co-opted member of Ceredigion County Council and Aberystwyth Town Council for a period which does not exceed **six months** or (if shorter) the remainder of the Respondent's term of office **with effect from the date of this notice**.
8. Ceredigion County Council and Aberystwyth Town Council and their Standards Committees are notified accordingly.

9. The Respondent has the right to seek the leave of the High Court to appeal the above decision.

10. The decision report will be published on the APW' website in due course.

Signed; R. Payne.

Dated 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Tribunal Judge Richard Payne  
Chairperson of the Interim Case Tribunal

Mrs S. McRobie  
Panel Member

Mr. D. Morris  
Panel Member