

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MON / ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
MEETING:	Standards Committee
DATE:	15.12.2020
TITLE OF REPORT:	Standards Committee review of the register of interests held by Town and Community Councils
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	To report on the proposed review, to be held in accordance with the Committee's Work Programme for 2020-2021
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1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As part of its work programme, the Standards Committee has decided to carry out a review of the register of interests maintained by the Town and Community Councils.
- 1.2 The last review was conducted in 2018/2019. A copy of the findings made following the last review can be seen [here](#).

2. THE USUAL PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW

- 2.1 The Standards Committee decides which Town or Community Councils are to be reviewed. (See below for more information in relation to the selection process)
- 2.2 Correspondence is then sent by the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, to advise the Town or Community Council's Clerk of the Standards Committee's intention to conduct a review. The letter explains the purpose of the visit, the documents which the Standards Committee members will wish to review and how any findings are to be published.
- 2.3 A mutually convenient time for a meeting will be arranged. The meeting usually involves two members of the Standards Committee (usually the Chair or the Vice-Chair and one other member of the Standards Committee except County Council members) meeting with the Clerk of the Town or Community Council. The Monitoring Officer or the Corporate Governance Solicitor is also usually in attendance.
- 2.4 In previous years, the format of the meeting has involved following the process outlined in the Methodology Note available [here](#). This process involves reviewing

the Register of Interests maintained by the Town and Community Councils together with other documents such as Declarations of Interest Forms made in Council meetings; Agenda and Minutes for the Council and its Sub-Committees; a list of the names of all members and copy form of acceptance of office by each current member, including the statutory undertaking to comply with the Code of Conduct; a record of members' training – usually dating back to the last election.

2.5A review of the Town or Community Council's website is also conducted so as to ascertain if all required and relevant information is published. Members usually conduct this as a desktop exercise before attending the meeting with the Clerk.

2.6After the review meeting, it has been standard practice to send –

2.6.1 Individual letters to each of the Town and Community Councils who have been subject to a review (these are not published) [copies are sent to the Clerk and all members of the relevant Town or Community Council]

and

2.6.2 A general report of findings to all 40 Town and Community Councils – this is so as to assist all Town and Community Councils by way of sharing good practice and identifying matters which commonly need to be addressed [without identifying or naming individual Town or Community Councils]. A copy of the letter sent following the 2018/2019 review can be seen [here](#).

3. THE 2020-2021 REVIEW

3.1 The Process

3.1.1 Due to the coronavirus pandemic, it will not be possible to follow the process previously adopted as physical meetings/sharing of paper documents cannot be arranged. The Standards Committee will therefore need to decide how it is going to conduct these reviews by way of an alternative format.

3.1.2 Some possible options include:

3.1.2.1 requesting documents electronically from the Clerks and arranging a virtual meeting (over Teams or Zoom) with the relevant Clerk; or

3.1.2.2 conducting a desk-top review only; based on the information published on the Town or Community Council's website, with any outstanding matters then queried with the Clerk directly via correspondence or a virtual meeting; or

3.1.2.3 requesting that the Town or Community Council completes a Questionnaire, which includes queries in relation to the matters previously raised by the Standards Committee as requiring further considerations (as identified in the finding letter referred to in paragraph 1.2 and 2.6.2 above).

3.1.3 You may also have other suggestions as to how this may be successfully performed in an alternative format. The Committee can discuss all options and will need to come to a view as to which format to adopt.

3.2 Selection

3.2.1 There are 5 Town Councils and 35 Community Councils in Anglesey.

3.2.2 A decision will need to be made on which Town / Community Councils are to be reviewed.

3.2.3 For the 2016/2017 Review, two Town Councils and two Community Councils were reviewed. For the 2018/2019 Review, the five Town Councils were reviewed.

3.2.4 Due to resources, it is likely the Committee will continue with the previous arrangement that the reviews are conducted in a sample of the Town and Community Councils (rather than all 40). But, this will need to be agreed by the Committee.

3.2.5 The decision as to which Town and Community Councils are chosen for review must be a fair process. In the past some of the data considered by the Committee have included (A) the level of the precepts, (B) attendance at the Town and Community Council Forum during the last 12 months, (C) complaints to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales where the PSOW has decided to investigate during the last 12 months, and (D) responses received to Standards Committee correspondence. There are no figures for B and D to rely upon for the last 12 months, and the answer to C is zero. The information for A i.e. the list of precepts (received by each Town and Community Council) is included as **Enclosure 1**. Also noted on this table in **Enclosure 1** is those Town and Community Councils that have been previously advised by the Standards Committee that they would not be subject to review due to their co-operation with the Committee.

3.2.6 The Committee may request that other sources of information are sought so as to assist in making an informed decision as to which Councils to review.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 The Standards Committee is requested to note the contents of this report and its enclosures.

4.2 The Standards Committee is requested to confirm -

4.2.1 the format for the reviews; and

4.2.2 which Town and Community Councils it wishes to review, and which members of the Standards Committee will conduct that review.

4.3 Once a decision is made in relation to 4.2 above, a timetable for the review will be agreed with the Clerk of each selected Town / Community Council.

PLWYF / PARISH	PRAESEPT / PRECEPT 2020/2021	WEDI CADARNHAU DIM ADOLYGIAD Y TRO HWN OHERWYDD CYDWEITHREDIAD / INFORMED NO REVIEW DUE TO CO-OPERATION
AMLWCH	99,134.88	X
BIWMARES / BEAUMARIS	29,343.10	
CAERGYBI / HOLYHEAD	509,891.00	
LLANGFNI	175,183.36	
PORTHAETHWY / MENAI BRIDGE	97,000.00	
LLANDDANIEL	9,250.00	
LLANDDONA	6,925.00	X
CWM CADNANT	31,500.00	
LLANFAIRPWLL	48,000.00	
LLANFIHANGEL ESCEIFIOG	18,750.00	
BODORGAN	11,500.00	
LLANGOED & PENMON	11,697.00	X
LLANGRISTIOLUS & CERRIGCEINWEN	8,000.00	X
LLANIDAN	12,062.44	
RHOSYR	26,400.00	
PENMYNYDD & STAR	7,500.00	X
PENTRAETH	13,000.00	
MOELFRE	11,496.90	
LLANBADRIG	27,525.00	X
LLANDDYFNAN	9,500.00	X
LLANEILIAN	13,018.63	X
LLANERCHYMEDD	17,492.97	
LLANEUGRAD	4,000.00	
LLANFAIR MATHAFARN EITHAF	54,185.00	
CYLCH Y GARN	7,000.00	
MEHELL	10,000.00	
RHOSYBOL	8,000.00	
ABERFFRAW	6,500.00	
BODEDERN	14,000.00	
BODFFORDD	11,000.00	
TREARDDUR	36,000.00	
TREF ALAW	6,745.00	
LLANFACHRAETH	8,074.00	
LLANFAELOG	40,000.00	
LLANFAETHLU & LLANFWROG	5,750.00	
LLANFAIRYNEUBWLL	17,000.00	
Y FALI / VALLEY	33,941.00	X
BRYNGWRAN	11,000.00	X
RHOSCOLYN	4,000.00	
TREWALCHMAI	8,500.00	X