CYNGOR SIR YNYS MON / ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
COMMITTEE:	Standards Committee
DATE:	18 June 2024
REPORT TITLE:	Update on the National Standards Committee Forum for Wales
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	As above
REPORT BY:	Mared Wyn Yaxley Solicitor – Corporate Governance <u>mwycs@ynysmon.llyw.cymru</u>
LINK OFFICER:	Lynn Ball Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer <u>Ibxcs@ynysmon.llyw.cymru</u> 01248 752586

# 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A National Standards Committee Forum has been set up in Wales, as a result of the recommendation made by the Penn Review on the Ethical Regime in Wales.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Forum's terms of reference, only the Chair of each Standards Committee attends the Forum meetings.
- 1.3 The Monitoring Officers from the North Wales authorities attend on a rota basis in order to provide professional advice.

# 2. FORUM MEETINGS

- 2.1 Since the last Standards Committee meeting, one meeting of the Forum has been held. Mr Rhys Davies attended the meeting on 29 January 2024, in his role as Vice Chair (a deputy can attend in the Chair's absence).
- 2.2 Notes of the January 2024 Forum meeting were shared with the Standards Committee members via email on 5 March 2024.
- 2.3A chair training skills workshop was held for Chairs and Vice Chairs of Standards Committees on 12 February 2024. Mr Rhys Davies and Mr Trefor Owen attended this workshop.
- 2.4 A training session on Hearings was held for Standards Committee Chairs only on 23 April 2024. Mr Rhys Davies was unable to attend this workshop but has since received a recording of the training and will be sharing learning with members in due course.

2.5 The next Forum meeting is scheduled on 24 June 2024. It is intended that Mr Trefor Owen, in his role as Vice Chair of this Standards Committee, will be attending, in the Chair's absence.

# 3. THE FORUM'S DOCUMENTATION

3.1 The Forum has agreed that, in relation to Forum notes - "the notes may be circulated to Standards Committees, provided no individual complainant or councillor complained of could be identified. This will be kept under review at/after each meeting."

# 4. CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE FORUM

- 4.1 Having attended the Forum meeting in January 2024, the Chair sent correspondence to the Chair and the administrator of the Forum; a copy of this correspondence dated 11 March 2024. The Chair distributed a draft to all members of the Standards Committee and asked for their observations prior to sending the correspondence to the Forum.
- 4.2 A response has been received dated 15 March 2024. That response has been shared with the Standards Committee members.

# 5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1 For the Committee to note the contents of this report.