

| ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL |                                                                                                                    |
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| MEETING:                        | STANDARDS COMMITTEE (DISPENSATION PANEL)                                                                           |
| DATE:                           | 9 OCTOBER 2025                                                                                                     |
| TITLE OF REPORT:                | TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION                                                                          |
| PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:          | TO DETERMINE AN APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION FROM TWO COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND THE TERMS OF ANY DISPENSATION GRANTED |
| REPORT BY:                      | LISA LORD & GURVYNDA PADDAN-WHITE<br>LEGAL SERVICES MANAGERS                                                       |

## DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

1. Code of Conduct for Members of the Isle of Anglesey County Council
2. Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001
3. Part 4 of the Local Government Regulations (Standards Committees, Investigations, Dispensations and Referral) (Wales) (Amendment) 2016
4. Briefing Note on Dispensations provided by the Standards Committee for the elected members of the Isle of Anglesey County Council along with Application Forms and Decisions
5. Application by Councillor Keith Roberts and Councillor Jeff Evans
6. Methodology Note for the consideration of applications for dispensation

## 1. LEGAL BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Code of Conduct (**Enclosure 1**), members who have a personal and prejudicial interest are precluded from any discussion on that matter in Full Council, Executive or in any meeting which they attend in their capacity as a member of the Council.

Personal interests are listed in paragraph 10 of the Code. The definition of prejudicial interests is provided in paragraph 12 of the Code.

In some limited, and specified, circumstances a member may be able to overreach the impediment created by the personal and prejudicial interest if they are able to obtain a dispensation from the Standards Committee.

Dispensations may only be granted in the circumstances listed in Section 2 of **Enclosure 2**.

## **2. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

Councillor Keith Roberts and Councillor Jeff Evans are Local Authority appointed Governors of Holyhead High School.

The matter under consideration at the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 15 October 2025 concerns the Results of the Consultation on the Proposal to Relocate Holyhead Highschool Learners to a New School Building for 11-18 years old Learners, and an extraordinary item relating to modernising learning communities.

The first report can be summarised as follows:

### **1. Consultation report – Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi:**

- Outcome of the consultation held between 5 June 2025 to 17 July 2025
- On the proposal to **Relocate Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi learners to a new school building for 11-18 year olds**
- The purpose of undertaking a statutory consultation was to seek the views of stakeholders/ interested parties on the above proposal.
- The report summarises all the responses and comments received by stakeholders to the statutory consultation.
- In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018) the report explains the proposal assessment, how the assessment differs from any earlier assessment (if at all), assessment of any other reasonable alternatives **and confirmation whether to implement the original proposal (wholly or partly).**

The further item relates to Modernising Learning Communities: Strategic Outline Case (extraordinary item). The report can be summarised as follows:

### **2. Strategic Outline Case (SOC) – Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi:**

- This Strategic Outline Case (SOC) contains a case for a new school building for Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi to replace the current building by September 2030.

- It sets out the SOC to secure 81% of the finance (grant) under the Welsh Government's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme for a new school building for Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi.

Given the significant nature of the matters, and their impact to the local community it is considered prudent and best interests of transparency and maintaining public confidence to seek a dispensation.

### **3. THE APPLICATION**

The applications to be considered are included in **Appendix 5**.

In relation to Councillor Keith Roberts it is noted that he is appointed as Governor by the County Council. He therefore has a personal interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct (see paragraph 10(2)(a)(viii)). There is an exemption in paragraph 12(2)(a)(iii) of the Code which means that he does not have a prejudicial interest unless the matter concerns the determination of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration (paragraph 12(3)). This provision within the Code enables the member to participate fully in education matters in general and issues which are specific to Holyhead High School. The specific matter under consideration has a significant impact on Holyhead High School and in particular relates to Results of the Consultation on the Proposal to Relocate Holyhead Highschool Learners to a New School Building for 11-18 years old Learners. As highlighted above, given the nature of the matter it is considered prudent and best interests of transparency and maintaining public confidence to seek a dispensation.

In relation to Councillor Jeff Evans the same considerations apply and in addition it should be noted that Councillor Jeff Evans is Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

### **4. PANEL'S CONSIDERATIONS**

The Panel should consider following the Methodology Note provided at (**Enclosure 6**)

Should the Panel decide to grant the dispensation, consideration should also be given to imposing constraints e.g. limiting the dispensation specifically to those interests identified in the application or extending the dispensation to cover other issues arising from this matter in

the future, etc. The Panel is referred to the 'Decision Form' included in **Enclosure 4** which notes the considerations which may apply.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

To consider the merits of the application and:

(A) determine whether or not to grant dispensation; and,

(B) if granting dispensation, to consider:-

- (i) on what ground or grounds the dispensation is granted; and
- (ii) whether there are any limitations/constraints to be imposed