

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MON / ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
COMMITTEE:	Standards Committee
DATE:	22 January 2026
REPORT TITLE:	The Local Government (Standards Committees and Member Conduct) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	To update the Committee on the changes to the eligibility criteria for lay members and the Model Members Code of Conduct
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1. INTRODUCTION

The Local Government (Standards Committees and Member Conduct) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025 (the Regulations) come into force on 5 January 2026. The Regulations make amendments to:

- i. The eligibility criteria for lay members,
- ii. The model Member Code of Conduct.

This report sets out the amendments and the steps that will be taken to ensure consistency with the Regulations.

2. AMENDMENTS TO THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR LAY MEMBERS

The Regulations amend the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 in relation to the eligibility criteria for lay members.

The current eligibility criteria for lay members who have previously been members of a relevant authority are replaced with the criteria summarised below

any person who has held a senior, cabinet or executive post in one or more relevant authorities must not be an independent member of the standards committee of any relevant authority in which that person held such a post	until the expiry of the period of five years commencing with the date on which that person last ceased to hold such a post;
any person who was a member of one or more relevant authorities must not be an	until the expiry of the period of two years commencing with the date on which that

independent member of the standards committee of any relevant authority of which that person was a member (not holding a senior, cabinet or executive post)	person last ceased to be a member of that authority
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The same time periods are also applied to previous members and Standards Committees of a corporate joint committee.

In relation to previous officers of a relevant authority the amended criteria is as summarised below

A person not holding a politically restricted post who has been but is no longer an officer of one or more relevant authorities may be an independent member of the standards committee of any relevant authority	No waiting period applies
A person who has been but is no longer an officer and held a politically restricted post of one or more relevant authorities may be an independent member of the standards committee	must not be an independent member of the standards committee of any relevant authority in which that person held such a politically restricted post the expiry of the period of two years commencing with the date on which that person last ceased to hold such a post

The same time periods are also applied to previous officers and Standards Committees of a corporate joint committee.

These changes do not require any amendment to the constitution. All paperwork for the recruitment and appointment of lay members will be reviewed and amended as required.

3. AMENDMENT TO THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Regulations amends the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) Order 2008 by adding a definition of 'protected characteristics' "nodweddion gwarchodedig" and amending paragraph 4(a) as follows

4. You must –

(a) carry out your duties and responsibilities with due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people, regardless of their ~~gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, age or religion~~ protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances

The relevant amendment to the Code of Conduct will be made by the Monitoring Officer under delegated authority and will be sent to all members.

4. RECOMMENDATION

To note the amendments and steps that will be taken to ensure implementation and consistency with the Regulations.