

<b>CYNGOR SIR YNYS MON / ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>12 DECEMBER 2013</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>TRAINING SESSIONS FOR TOWN &amp; COMMUNITY COUNCILS ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT</b>
<b>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>HEAD OF FUNCTION (COUNCIL BUSINESS) / MONITORING OFFICER</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>LYNN BALL HEAD OF FUNCTION (COUNCIL BUSINESS) / MONITORING OFFICER (ext 2586)</b>

## **1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND**

The role of the Standards Committee is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst Members and assist them to keep to the Code of Conduct. A great deal of emphasis is placed on training and to this end four training sessions were arranged in September 2013 specifically for Town and Community Councillors.

This report provides a review of attendance, proposals as to the action now required and proposals for future training events.

## **2. ATTENDANCE AT THE TRAINING SESSIONS**

Two afternoon and two evening sessions were arranged with two sessions being in Welsh and the other two in English. Due to lack of nominations, the first afternoon session (Welsh) was cancelled and the other three sessions went ahead. Detailed figures are attached at **Enclosure 1**.

Please note that Holyhead Town Council is not included in this report as they intend to arrange their own training One Voice Wales. However, this had not taken place as at the date of writing this report.

## **3. ACTION REQUIRED**

From **Enclosure 1**, it is clear that there was a lack of support for this training.

- The 39 Town and Community Councils have a total of 447 Councillors.
- Three places were offered to the 39 Councils and they were given the choice, if they so wished, to send the Clerk as 1 of the attendees.

- If all Councils had taken up the 3 places offered, 117 councillors/ clerks would have received training on the Code of Conduct.
- The actual attendance figure was 51 – only 43.5% of the number who could have attended.

Given the lack of support, it is suggested that the Standards Committee consider the following approach:-

1. A letter to be sent from the Committee thanking those Councils who sent 3 or more representatives. In addition, to ask that they disseminate the information to other members, give special consideration to consider declarations of interest and their registration in meetings, and also to take the opportunity re-enforce the message re: web presence.
2. A letter to be sent to those Councils who sent some representatives to thank them for doing so but to express disappointment that they did not take up the full complement of places. In addition, to ask that they disseminate the information to other members, give special consideration to consider declarations of interest and their registration in meetings, and also to take the opportunity re-enforce the message re: web presence.
3. A letter to the 13 Councils who did not send anyone to the training and to explain the potential consequences in the event of a complaint. In addition, Officers to write to the relevant Local Members expressing concern about the non- attendance.

All three letters to contain a request that they are put on an agenda, discussed and minuted and to provide written confirmation to the Standards Committee.

#### **4. FUTURE TRAINING**

Feedback from the Chair and Vice –Chair of the Committee following the training sessions noted that the training of Town and Community Council Clerks may be a key priority and that of the 51 people who attended the training sessions in September, 8 were Clerks.

Training sessions for Clerks will need to be more focused as they have the responsibility for running their Councils.

From the experience of the last sessions, there is a need for a better room to facilitate break-out sessions and group work. It is also important to ensure that there is a break to enable networking etc.

Enquiries have been made with WLGA and Unllais Cymru as to the availability of their training materials. WLGA are happy for us to use anything that they have produced for training purposes whilst Unllais Cymru has withheld consent.

Comments on areas to focus attention, format and any ideas as to how to improve on the September session together with when we run sessions again are welcomed.

## **5. RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Committee agrees to the proposal outlined in the report to send letters to the Town & Community Councils and give authority for the Solicitor – Corporate Governance to agree the wording with the Chair and Vice Chair.

2. That the Committee agrees future training delivery.

<b>Town/Community Council</b>	<b>Those who sent 3 or more representatives = 5</b>
Llanerchymedd	3
Pentraeth	3
Trewalchmai	3
Llangefni Town Council	5
Llangoed & Penmon	5

<b>Town/Community Council</b>	<b>Those who did send some Representatives = 21</b>
Aberffraw	2
Amlwch Town Council	2
Bodffordd	2
Bodorgan	1
Bryngwran	1
Llanbadrig	1
Llanddaniel Fab	1
Llanddyfnaan	2
Llaneilian	2
Llanfaelog	2
Llanfaethlu	1
Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf	2
Llanfairpwll ( also a member of the Standards Committee)	1
Llanfihangelesceifiog	1
Llanidan	1
Mechell	2
Menai Bridge Town Council	2
Rhoscolyn	2
Trearddur	2
Tref Alaw	1
Valley	1

Town/Community Council	Those who Failed to Attend = 13
Beaumaris Town Council	None of the dates suitable – asked if further training was to be arranged
Bodedern	Clerk was to attend but unable to do so at the last minute
Cwm Cadnant	Clerk advised that no Councillor had put name forward
Cylch y Garn	Advertising for 5 new councillors – no one available to attend – asked if further training was to be arranged
Llanddona	Clerk advised that no Councillor had put name forward
Llaneurgad	No response received
Llanfachraeth	Clerk advised that no Councillor had put name forward
Llanfair yn Newubwll	No response received
Llangristiolus	Clerk was to attend but unable to do so at the last minute
Moelfre	No response received
Penmynydd & Star	Clerk advised that no Councillor had put name forward
Rhosybol	No response received
Rhosyr	None of the dates suitable