

ATODIAD / ENCLOSURE
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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING:	Standards Committee
DATE:	11 th June 2014
TITLE:	Training Sessions for Town and Community Councils on the Code of Conduct
REPORT BY:	Awena Parry, Solicitor (Corporate Governance)
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To receive further instructions from the Standards Committee
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1. Introduction and Background

The role of the Standards Committee is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst members and assist them to comply with the Code of Conduct. A great deal of emphasis is placed on training members and, as you know, further training sessions were arranged in September 2013 specifically for town and community councils.

This report provides:- (i) a review of the responses received to the three letters sent to those Councils which did not send their full allocation of members to the training; (ii) discussion on the next training session to be provided by the Monitoring Officer, and (iii) any suggested issues/topics which could be covered in this session.

2. Responses to letters sent out

As discussed in the last two Standards Committee meetings, three letters were sent to the town and community councils after the training sessions were held in 2013. Letter 1 was sent to those who filed all three allocations, letter 2 was sent to those which sent one or two members, and letter 3 was sent to those who sent no members to the training sessions. Enclosure 1 includes a table of the responses that we have received to those letters to date along with the preferred dates we have been given for further training, and any comments received by Community Councils on the training itself.

Enclosure 1 also includes a list of all town and community councils which have not responded to our letter to date.

Please note that we understand that the town and community councils at Llanfair, Penmynydd and Star are arranging their own training which is to be conducted by Councillor John Roberts and Councillor Meirion Jones.

From Enclosure 1 it would appear that there is an initial lack of support for this training as we are still awaiting responses from several community councils at this stage.

We do however propose to continue with this training on the morning and/or afternoon of the 29th or 30th September 2014. It is unlikely that we will need the further 2 sessions given the lack of responses received to date.

3. Suggestions for training

We are of the opinion that the training sessions for clerks will need to be focused on the advice they give their members on the Code. It would be helpful if you could provide some feedback as to what topics it would be worth covering during the sessions. Our thoughts are as follows:-

- (i) Main requirements of the Code, especially declarations of interest.
- (ii) Current flashpoints within community councils which sometimes lead to conflict and complaints.
- (iii) The Code; complaints procedure and roles and responsibilities.
- (iv) Group discussion on code of conduct scenarios and a discussion around what the clerks think would be the best resolution to those scenarios;
- (v) Discussion on relevant cases which have taken place in front of the Adjudication Panel for Wales and the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, particularly those concerning community councils;
- (vi) an opportunity for networking and questions.

We do not propose that it will be necessary for Standards Committee Members to attend (having already received this training)_but the Chair and Vice Chair may wish to facilitate an introduction?

Recommendations

To advise officers of suggested topics that you believe it would be useful for the Clerks to be trained on.

Atebion gan Cynghorau Cymuned/Responses from Community Councils

Cyngor Cymuned/Community Council	Llythyr/Letter	Sylwadau/Comments	Preferred Training Dates/Dyddiad a ffefrir ar gyfer Hyfforddiant
Llanfaelog Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf	2 2	<p>Dim/None</p> <p>Barn yr aelodau oedd y buasai'n amgenach cael hyfforddiant uniongyrchol gan swyddog gyda chymwysterau yn y meysydd priodol yn dod i gyfarfodydd y cynghorau cymuned. Rhaid cofio mae lleygwyr yw y mwyafrif y clercod gyda ychydig o brofiad yn y gyfraith.</p> <p>The members felt that it would be more beneficial to receive training directly from an officer qualified in the relevant areas who would attend meetings of the community councils. It must be borne in mind that the majority of the clerks are laypersons with little legal experience.</p>	30ain/30 th
Llanidfan	2	<p>Mae'r clercc yn teimlo fod ganddo lawer mwy i'w ddysgu cyn y byddai'n medru rhannu'r hyfforddiant yn hyderus gyda'r aelodau.</p> <p>The clerk feels that he has a lot more to learn before he could share the training confidently with the members.</p>	Unrhyw ddyddiad/No Preference
Fali	2	Dim/None	<p>Ni fedr ond dod gyda'r nos gan ei fod yn gweithio amser llawn.</p> <p>Can only come during the evenings</p>

				as works full time.
lanailian	2	Dim/None		
langristiolus a Cerrigceinwen	3	Dim/None		
lanbadrig	2	Dim/None		Unrhyw ddyddiad/No Preference
landdaniel-fab	2	Dim/None		
Beaumaris	3	Petai modd cynnal sesiwn hyfforddiant arbennig yn Neuadd y Dref, Biwmares, yna maent yn sicr y byddai'r mwyafrif o'r aelodau'n mynychu.		
		If there was a possibility of a special training session at Beaumaris Town Hall they are sure the majority would attend.		
lanfihangelesceifiog	2	Dim/None		
Yngor Cymuned Trearddur Community Council	2	Yn synnu eu bod wedi derbyn llythyr oherwydd roeddynt eisiau anfon tri chynghorydd ond cawsant ar ddeall nad oedd digon o lefydd ar gael. Mae swyddogion y cyngor wedi adolygu'r sefyllfa ers hynny ac wedi ymateb iddynt yn egluro mai nad dyna oedd y sefyllfa.		
		Surprised to have received a letter because they wanted to send three councillors but were advised that there were no further vacancies. The officers of the council have since reviewed the position on this and responded to let them know that this was not the case.		
hosyr	3	Dim/None		Unrhyw ddyddiad/No Preference
ref Alaw	2	Dim eisiau i'r clerck fod yn gyfrifol am		

Atebion gan Cynghorau Cymuned/Responses from Community Councils

		hyfforddi'r cynghorwyr eraill. Nid yw'r cleric yn meddu ar y cymwysterau i weithredu fel hyfforddwr neu athro ac ni fyddai'n gallu cyflawni'r dasg hon.		
rewalchmai	1	Does not want the clerk to be responsible for training the other councillors. The clerk is not qualified as either a trainer or a teacher and will be unable to perform this task.		Unrhyw ddyddiad/No Preference
laneilian	2			Unrhyw ddyddiad/No Preference
Moelfre	3	Dim yn meddwl y dylai'r cleric fod yn gyfrifol am hyfforddi.		30ain/ 30 th
landdona	3	Doesn't think the clerk should be conducting training.		29aind/29 th
aergybi / Holyhead	N/A			29ain/29 th
techeil		Dyddiadau eisoes wedi cael eu gosod ond wedi cael eu canslo ar y funud olaf gyda'r tri Chyngorydd Cymuned methu mynychu ar y dyddiad a drefnwyd wedyn.		
		Dates had been set but cancelled at the last minute and the three councillors could not attend on the later date.		
tyngwran, Llanddyfnan, Penmynydd a tar				Unrhyw ddyddiad/No preference.
angefni				Unrhyw ddyddiad/No preference.

Dim Ymateb/No Response

1. Llannerch-y-medd
2. Pentraeth
3. Llangoed a Penmon
4. Aberffraw
5. Amlwch
6. Bodffordd
7. Bodorgan
8. Llanfaethlu
9. Llanfairpwll
10. Porthaethwy
11. Rhoscolyn
12. Bodedern
13. Cwm Cadnant
14. Cylch y Garn
15. Llaneugrad
16. Llanfachraeth
17. Llanfair yn Neubwll
18. Rhosybol