

STANDARDS REPORT



Date Written	28 th June 2012
Report Author	Carys Kennedy
Service Area	Democratic Services
Committee Division	Standards
Committee Date	9 th July 2012

To: Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

TO RECONSIDER PREVIOUS DISPENSATIONS GRANTED TO COUNCILLORS DURING THEIR 2008 - 2012 TERM OF OFFICE

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To reconsider previous dispensations granted to Councillors during their 2008 - 2012 term of office and re-affirm their or otherwise their validity for the 2012-2017 term of office.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The Standards Committee granted dispensations to Councillors, as outlined in Appendices 1 and 2, during their 2008 - 2012 term of office.
- 1.2** The Councillors outlined have been re-elected and their term of office will end in May 2017.
- 1.3** Members of the Standards Committee are reminded that the new Code of Conduct for Members of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council only provides that where Members have a personal and prejudicial interest in a matter (subject to certain exemptions some of which will now cover a number of dispensations granted previously) that Members must declare their interest and leave the meeting (subject again of course to having been granted a dispensation) where they can speak and vote. The half way house of being allowed to speak but not vote has been removed.

1.4 Members are, therefore, requested to consider the attached requests for dispensations on the basis that Members of the Council are now granted the right to speak and vote or alternatively not granted a dispensation at all.

2.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2.1 It has been identified that an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is not required for the purpose of this report.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That Members' instructions on the dispensations outlined in Appendices 1 and 2 are requested.

GARETH CHAPMAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
<i>Title of Document(s)</i>	<i>Document(s) Date</i>	<i>Document Location</i>
Request for dispensation	1 st June 2012	Democratic Services

APPENDIX A

NAME	DISPENSATION GRANTED	DATE OF DISPENSATION
Councillor A Jones	Right to speak on any matter which may affect him as the General Secretary of the Merthyr Tydfil Association Football League except where any financial/funding matters are being discussed.	20 th June 2008
Councillor B Toomey	Right to speak and vote on any matters which may affect the South Wales Fire Authority	20 th June 2008
Councillor C J Barry	Right to speak and vote on any matter relating to Merthyr Tydfil Football Club except where any financial/funding matters are being discussed.	20 th June 2008
Councillor C Tovey	Right to speak but not vote on any matter relating to any Health and Health Agencies	20 th June 2008
Councillor C Jones	Right to speak and vote on any matter relating to Merthyr Tydfil Football Club except where financial/funding matters are being discussed.	20 th June 2008
Councillor C Jones	Right to speak and vote on any matter relating to Merthyr Tydfil Local Health Board except where any financial/funding matters are being discussed.	20 th June 2008

APPENDIX A (Cont'd)

NAME	DISPENSATION GRANTED	DATE OF DISPENSATION
Councillor L Elliott	Entitled to speak and vote on any matter relating to Merthyr Village Ltd and Local Development Plan	20 th June 2008
Councillor S P Brown	Entitled to speak and vote on any matter relating to Merthyr Village Ltd and the Local Development Plan.	20 th June 2008
Councillor S P Brown	Entitled to speak and vote on any matter which may affect the Planning Application for housing on Winchfawr Road, Heolgerrig.	20 th June 2008
Councillor G Jones	Entitled to speak and vote on any matter relating to housing matters except where any financial/funding matters are being discussed.	20 th June 2008
Councillor Richard Thomas	Entitled to speak and vote on any matter relating to the Planning Application at Ty Llwyd Farm, Quakers Yard, Treharris.	20 th June 2008
Councillor C J Barry	Entitled to speak and vote on any matters which affect the Cwm Taf Local Health Board but not when financial implications are being discussed.	21 st January 2011
Councillor C Jones	Entitled to speak on matters relating to Cwm Taf Crossroads for Carers and Merthyr and the Valley MIND (Mental Health Charity) but not vote	11 th February 2011

APPENDIX A (Cont'd)

NAME	DISPENSATION GRANTED	DATE OF DISPENSATION
Councillor S P Brown	Entitled to speak but not vote on any matter relating to all highway and traffic matters within Cyfarthfa Electoral division.	10 th July 2009
Councillor G Jones	Entitled to speak but not vote on any matter relating to the topic of "Sleeping Policemen/Speed Bumps" within the Bedlinog Electoral Division.	17 th November 2009
Councillor G Jones	Entitled to speak but not vote on any matter relating to the Co-op Fields in the village of Bedlinog.	19 th July 2010
Councillor Howard Barrett	Entitled to speak and vote on matters relating to the new Community School to replace Ysgol-y-Graig, Cefn Coed, Merthyr Tydfil	31 st March 2011
Councillor L Mytton	Entitled to speak and vote on matters relating to the new Community School to replace Ysgol-y-Graig, Cefn Coed, Merthyr Tydfil	31 st March 2011

APPENDIX B

NAME	DISPENSATION GRANTED	DATE OF DISPENSATION
All Councillors	Any Councillor who is nominated or appointed as the Local Authority School Governor on a School Governing Body shall after declaring their interest being allowed to speak and vote on any issue regarding the High School Review and Lifelong Learning Agenda.	20 th June 2008
All Councillors	Any Councillor who is nominated or appointed to a body as the Authority Representative shall, after declaring their interest, be allowed to speak and vote on any matter relating to that body or where that body has made representation except where financial/funding issues are being discussed where the Councillor will only have the right to speak (as granted by the Code) but not the right to vote.	20 th June 2008
All Councillors	Right to speak and vote on any matters relating to Communities First Programme that affects their electoral division except where any financial/funding matters are being discussed.	20 th June 2008
All Councillors	Right to speak and vote on any matter relating to the Local Development Plan where they would have had to declare an interest as a Council Representative on an Outside Body. The Dispensation did not cover "personal interest".	20 th June 2008

APPENDIX B

NAME	DISPENSATION GRANTED	DATE OF DISPENSATION
All Councillors	Entitled to speak and vote at any meeting when the Holistic Area Regeneration Plan for the County Borough to the Heads of the Valleys Programme is being discussed.	2 nd March 2009