

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD IN
MEETING ROOM 2, GUILDHALL, WREXHAM ON THURSDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER
2016**

MEMBERS

Mrs Ceri Nash, Chair
*Mr M W Pugh, Vice-Chair

Ms J E Adams
Mr Neil Benson
Ms J M Cotter

Councillor Anne Evans
Councillor P Jeffares
Councillor Paul H Pemberton
Mr Geoff Edwards – Community Councillor

*Absent

8 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Pat Jeffares.

9 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

Matter Arising – Minute 3 – Recruitment of Independent Members – the Committee were informed that the Selection Panel had met immediately prior to the meeting and would be recommending the candidate to the Council for appointment. Reference was made to the selection criteria being too restrictive and it was agreed that these be reviewed by the Committee at a future meeting.

10 **PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES - ANNUAL REPORT**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer submitted a report (HCCS/75/16) informing Members of the publication of the Annual Report of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales 2015/16 entitled “10 Years of Putting Things Right”.

It was noted that the nature of the Code of Conduct complaints received was broken down according to the Principles of Conduct in Public Life and that 41% of those received related to Promotion of Equality and Respect. The Complaints Casebook provided more detail and the complaints tended to be in relation to respect and not equality. It was suggested that the Committee might usefully consider some cases in more detail at a future meeting.

The Committee were informed that the Ombudsman would be attending a meeting of the North Wales Standards Committee Forum in Llangefni on Monday 17 October 2016. The Chair said she would be attending and that she was happy for Members of this Committee to email her any issues they may wish to raise.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer also mentioned that a Member Code of Conduct refresher training session was being held for all County Councillors at 10.00am on 10 October 2016 in the Guildhall, Wrexham. All members of this Committee were invited to attend if they were available.

Mrs Ceri Nash
Chair