

# CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

## NOTICE OF MEETING

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

## APPEALS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

**At:** Committee Room 4, Guildhall

**On:** Friday, 13 March 2015

**Time:** 9.30 am

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## AGENDA

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1 Apologies for Absence.	
2 To receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Members.	1
3 Minutes. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Appeals and Awards Committee held on 13 February 2015 as a correct record.	2 - 4
4 Exclusion of the Public.	5 - 8
5 Allegation of Bullying and Harrassment.	9 - 31



**Patrick Arran**  
**Head of Legal, Democratic Services & Procurement**  
**6 March 2015**

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**Contact: Democratic Services ( 01792) 636820**

## APPEALS & AWARDS (7)

### Councillors

#### Labour Councillors: 5

June E Burtonshaw ( <b>Vice-Chair</b> )	Hazel M Morris
Jan P Curtice	Des W W Thomas ( <b>Chair</b> )
Joe A Hale	

#### Liberal Democrats Councillor: 1

Richard D Lewis	
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#### Independent Councillor: 1

Keith E Marsh	
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### Officers:

Sharon Heys	Legal
Janet Short	Human Resources
Carolyn Thorne	Human Resources
Debra Yeates	Human Resources
	Democratic Services

### Total Copies Needed:

16
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### Disclosures of Personal Interest from Members

To receive **Disclosures of Personal Interest from Members** in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea. You must disclose orally to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest.

**NOTE:** You are requested to identify the Agenda Item / Minute No. / Planning Application No. and Subject Matter to which that interest relates and to enter all declared interests on the sheet provided for that purpose at the meeting.

1. If you have a **Personal Interest** as set out in **Paragraph 10** of the Code, you **MAY STAY, SPEAK AND VOTE** unless it is also a Prejudicial Interest.
2. If you have a Personal Interest which is also a **Prejudicial Interest** as set out in **Paragraph 12** of the Code, then subject to point 3 below, you **MUST WITHDRAW** from the meeting (unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Authority's Standards Committee)
3. Where you have a Prejudicial Interest you may attend the meeting but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, **provided** that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise. In such a case, you **must withdraw from the meeting immediately after the period for making representations, answering questions, or giving evidence relating to the business has ended**, and in any event before further consideration of the business begins, whether or not the public are allowed to remain in attendance for such consideration (**Paragraph 14** of the Code).
4. Where you have agreement from the Monitoring Officer that the information relating to your Personal Interest is **sensitive information**, as set out in **Paragraph 16** of the Code of Conduct, your obligation to disclose such information is replaced with an obligation to disclose the existence of a personal interest and to confirm that the Monitoring Officer has agreed that the nature of such personal interest is sensitive information.
5. If you are relying on a **grant of a dispensation** by the Standards Committee, you must, before the matter is under consideration:
  - (i) disclose orally both the interest concerned and the existence of the dispensation; and (ii) before or immediately after the close of the meeting give written notification to the Authority containing -
    - details of the prejudicial interest;
    - details of the business to which the prejudicial interest relates;
    - details of, and the date on which, the dispensation was granted; and
    - your signature

# Agenda Item 3

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

### MINUTES OF THE APPEALS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CIVIC CENTRE, SWANSEA. ON  
FRIDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2015  
AT 9.30 AM

**PRESENT:** Councillor D W W Thomas

#### **Councillor(s)**

J E Burtonshaw  
J P Curtice  
J A Hale  
K E Marsh  
H Morris

#### **Officers:-**

S Heys - Legal  
N Reid - Human Resources  
G Borsden – Democratic Services

#### 41 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

An apology for absence were received from Councillor RD Lewis.

#### 42 **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, the following interest was declared:

Councillor J A Hale – Minute No.46 – Member of Unison.

#### 43 **MINUTES.**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Appeals and Awards Committee held on 28 November 2014 be approved as a correct record.

#### 44 **APPEAL HEARING ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS.**

The appeal hearing order of proceedings were **NOTED**.

45 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC.**

The Committee were requested to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of the item of business identified in the recommendations to the report on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the exclusion paragraph of 12a of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 relevant to the items of business as set out in the report.

The Committee considered the public interest test in deciding to exclude the public from the meeting for the items of business where the public interest test was relevant, as set out in the report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded for the following item on the Agenda.

**(CLOSED SESSION)**

46 **REDUNDANCY APPEAL BY DJ.**

**Departmental Officers:**

J Bartlett	- Store Manager/Team Leader Furnished Tenancies
Lynne Price	- Property Manager
A Price	H R Officer

**Appellants/Appellant Representative:**

DJ	- Appellant
M Davies	- Unison

The Appeals and Awards Committee heard an Appeal against redundancy.

**RESOLVED** that the Appeal be refused.

The meeting ended at 11.55am.

**CHAIR**

## Report of the Head of Legal, Democratic Services & Procurement

### Appeals & Awards Committee – 13 March 2015

#### EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

<b>Purpose:</b>	To consider whether the Public should be excluded from the following items of business.	
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None.	
<b>Reason for Decision:</b>	To comply with legislation.	
<b>Consultation:</b>	Legal.	
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:	
<b>1)</b>	The public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it / they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the Paragraphs listed below of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 subject to the Public Interest Test (where appropriate) being applied.	
	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A</b>
	5	12, 13.
<b>Report Author:</b>	Democratic Services	
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Not Applicable	
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Patrick Arran – Head of Legal, Democratic Services and Procurement (Monitoring Officer)	

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, allows a Principal Council to pass a resolution excluding the public from a meeting during an item of business.
- 1.2 Such a resolution is dependant on whether it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present during that item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as defined in section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

## **2. Exclusion of the Public / Public Interest Test**

- 2.1 In order to comply with the above mentioned legislation, **Council / Cabinet / Committee** will be requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in the recommendation(s) to the report on the grounds that it / they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the Exclusion Paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.
- 2.2 Information which falls within paragraphs 12 to 15, 17 and 18 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended is exempt information if and so long as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
- 2.3 The specific Exclusion Paragraphs and the Public Interest Tests to be applied are listed in **Appendix A**.
- 2.4 Where paragraph 16 of the Schedule 12A applies there is no public interest test. Councillors are able to consider whether they wish to waive their legal privilege in the information, however, given that this may place the Council in a position of risk, it is not something that should be done as a matter of routine.

## **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The legislative provisions are set out in the report.
- 5.2 Councillors must consider with regard to each item of business set out in paragraph 2 of this report the following matters:
  - 5.2.1 Whether in relation to that item of business the information is capable of being exempt information, because it falls into one of the paragraphs set out in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended and reproduced in Appendix A to this report.
  - 5.2.2 If the information does fall within one or more of paragraphs 12 to 15, 17 and 18 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, the public interest test as set out in paragraph 2.2 of this report.
  - 5.2.3 If the information falls within paragraph 16 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in considering whether to exclude the public members are not required to apply the public interest test but must consider whether they wish to waive their privilege in relation to that item for any reason.

**Background Papers:** None



## Public Interest Test

No.	Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A
<b>12</b>	<p data-bbox="272 389 1398 423"><b>Information relating to a particular individual.</b></p> <p data-bbox="272 427 1398 792">The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 12 should apply. His view on the public interest test was that to make this information public would disclose personal data relating to an individual in contravention of the principles of the Data Protection Act. Because of this and since there did not appear to be an overwhelming public interest in requiring the disclosure of personal data he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
<b>13</b>	<p data-bbox="272 810 1398 844"><b>Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.</b></p> <p data-bbox="272 848 1398 1137">The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 13 should apply. His view on the public interest test was that the individual involved was entitled to privacy and that there was no overriding public interest which required the disclosure of the individual's identity. On that basis he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
<b>14</b>	<p data-bbox="272 1155 1398 1234"><b>Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</b></p> <p data-bbox="272 1238 1398 1317">The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 14 should apply. His view on the public interest test was that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="272 1357 1398 1541">a) Whilst he was mindful of the need to ensure the transparency and accountability of public authority for decisions taken by them in relation to the spending of public money, the right of a third party to the privacy of their financial / business affairs outweighed the need for that information to be made public; or</li> <li data-bbox="272 1581 1398 1659">b) Disclosure of the information would give an unfair advantage to tenderers for commercial contracts.</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="272 1700 1398 1778">This information is not affected by any other statutory provision which requires the information to be publicly registered.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1818 1398 2000">On that basis he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>

No.	Relevant Paragraphs in Schedule 12A
15	<p><b>Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.</b></p>
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 15 should apply. His view on the public interest test was that whilst he is mindful of the need to ensure that transparency and accountability of public authority for decisions taken by them he was satisfied that in this case disclosure of the information would prejudice the discussion in relation to labour relations to the disadvantage of the authority and inhabitants of its area. On that basis he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
16	<p><b>Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.</b></p>
	<p>No public interest test.</p>
17	<p><b>Information which reveals that the authority proposes:</b>  <b>(a) To give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or</b>  <b>(b) To make an order or direction under any enactment.</b></p>
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 17 should apply. His view on the public interest test was that the authority's statutory powers could be rendered ineffective or less effective were there to be advanced knowledge of its intention/the proper exercise of the Council's statutory power could be prejudiced by the public discussion or speculation on the matter to the detriment of the authority and the inhabitants of its area. On that basis he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>
18	<p><b>Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</b></p>
	<p>The Proper Officer (Monitoring Officer) has determined in preparing this report that paragraph 18 should apply. His view on the public interest test was that the authority's statutory powers could be rendered ineffective or less effective were there to be advanced knowledge of its intention/the proper exercise of the Council's statutory power could be prejudiced by public discussion or speculation on the matter to the detriment of the authority and the inhabitants of its area. On that basis he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.</p>

# Agenda Item 5

By virtue of paragraph(s) 12, 13 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972  
as amended by the Local Government (Access to  
Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

Document is Restricted