



Walsall Council

Standards Committee

27 January 2025 at 18:00

Conference room 2 at the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall

Public access to meeting via: www.walsallcouncilwebcasts.com

Membership:

Councillor R. Martin (Chair)
Councillor R. Burley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor A. Andrew
Councillor H. Bashir
Councillor M. Follows
Councillor I. Hussain
Councillor R. Larden
Councillor R. K. Mehmi
Councillor S. Samra
Councillor K. Sears

Independent Members

Mr A. Green
Ms D. Mardner
Mr C. Magness

Quorum:

Four Members

Democratic Services, The Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW
Contact name: Luke Cook Telephone: 01922 650959 Email: luke.cook@walsall.gov.uk
[Walsall Council Website](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)

**If you are disabled and require help to and from the meeting room,
please contact the person above**

The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012
Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)

Access to information: Exempt information

Part 1

Descriptions of exempt information: England

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. 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.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
 - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
 - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
 - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

Part 1 – Public Session

1. Apologies
2. Substitutions
To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.
3. Minutes
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2024.
(Enclosed - Page 5 to 10)
4. Declarations of Interest
5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended):
To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.
6. Member DBS Check Update
Update on the current uptake of criminal record checks by elected members.
(Enclosed – Page 11 to 13)
7. Standards Committee Working Group Update

(Enclosed - Page 14 to 17)
8. Whistleblowing Policy Update

(Enclosed - Page 18 to 26)
9. Government Consultation in relation to strengthening the standards and conduct framework for Local Authorities in England

(To Follow)
10. Date of next meeting
The date of the next meeting will be 22 April 2025.