

APPLICATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE FOR DISPENSATION

Please note that each section MUST be completed. Please refer to the attached Guidance Notes when completing the form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name: Richard Andrew Rees (Clerk)

Name of your Council: Llanllawddog Community Council

Email address: ccllanllawddogcc@gmail.com

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

Consultation on proposed Towy / Teifi new overhead line for new renewable energy by Green Gen Cymru / Bute Energy

What is your interest in the above matter?

The application for dispensation is made on behalf of the Councillors of Llanllawddog Community Council. The Council comprises of 8 Councillors, but there is currently 1 recent vacancy which has been advertised. A list of the Councillors along with their interests is attached.

When will the above matter be considered?

Not known at this stage.

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only:

Speak and vote:

Make written
Representations

Exercise Executive
Powers

3. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations issued by the National Assembly for Wales prescribe the circumstances in which the Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. These grounds for granting a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

• at least half of the members considering the business has an interest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my inability to participate would upset the political balance of the meeting to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation would not damage public confidence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board I am a member and I have no other interest	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case:

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

Llanllawddog Community Council has recently been consulted by Green Gen Cymru on its proposal for the construction of an overhead line and pylons on its Towy Teifi renewable energy project. This is the first of 3 consultations which Green Gen Cymru will be consulting the Community Council on. The second consultation is due to take place during 2025 with a final consultation in 2026, prior to its submission to PEDW for determination.

The renewable energy project is of great significance to the community of Llanllawddog, which comprises the villages of Pontarsais and Rhydargaeau (population 750) and its impact will be felt and visible to every resident. The preferred route and potential optional routes all run straight through Llanllawddog Community Council's area.

As stated in Section 2 above, the Council currently has 7 Members, of which, 6 Members have an interest in the proposal by Green Gen Cymru. Should the application for dispensation not be granted, all but one of the Members would not be able to consider making written representations or vote on the consultation and subsequent consultations or represent the interests of residents.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

Signed:



Date:

07 / 02 /2024

Please return this form to the Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP. / Monitoringofficer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Guidance notes

- (1) Please read through the Code of Conduct and decide which of the paragraphs is most appropriate to your case. Brief details of the relevant paragraphs are noted in the table below. If you are unsure, please contact the Monitoring Officer for advice.

Para.	Type of personal interest	
10(2)(a)	Council business which relates to or is likely to affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your employment or business, • your employer, firm or company • a contract made between the Council and you • any land, lease or licence in which you have an interest • a public body or other association in which you have membership or hold a position of general control or management 	
10(2)(b)	Council business in which there may be a conflict between your decision-making role and your role in representing constituents in your ward	
10(2)(c)	Council business which affects your well-being or financial position, or the well-being, financial position or other interests of a person with whom you live or have a close personal association	
13	Council business which is being considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and which relates to a decision of the Cabinet or another Committee of which you were a member at the time [County Council only]	

- (2) The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001 state that a Standards Committee may grant dispensations where:

- (a) no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;
- (b) no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;
- (c) in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;
- (d) the nature of the member's interest is such that the member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;
- (e) the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;
- (f) the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;
- (g) the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;

- (h) the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business; or
- (i) it appears to the committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the relevant authority that the disability should be removed provided that written notification of the grant of the dispensation is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify.