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Date: 25 September 2024 Marilyn.morgan@ombudsman.wales

CONFIDENTIAL

By email only

<u>Independent Review of investigations by the Public Services Ombudsman</u> for Wales into Code of Conduct complaints

I am pleased to share with you a copy of the final report and press statement which will be published on PSOW's website on **Friday 27 September**. These documents remain under embargo until publication and the contents should remain confidential until that time.

I commissioned this Independent Review in May 2024 following public concern about PSOW's work on Code of Conduct complaints which may be made about Elected Members in Local Government in Wales. The powers granted to PSOW, in relation to this work, are set out in the Local Government Act 2000. The Review was led by Dr Melissa McCullough who is the Commissioner for Standards for the Northern Ireland Assembly and also Commissioner for Standards for the Jersey and Guernsey States Assemblies.

I welcome this report and accept the recommendations and lessons to be learnt.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the report then please contact Marilyn.Morgan@ombudsman.wales to arrange a convenient time.

Yours sincerely

MM. Momis.

Michelle Morris

Public Services Ombudsman