

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales 2023/24

MEETING: Standards Committee

DATE: 16th December 2024

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE

To provide the Committee with a copy of the Annual Report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales 2023/24 for consideration and discussion.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee notes the APW's annual report at Appendix 1.

3. KEY ISSUES

3.1 The APW is an independent tribunal established under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000

3.2 The APW has two statutory functions in relation to breaches of the Code of Conduct:

a) to consider references from the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW), following the investigation of allegations that a member has failed to comply with their authority's Code of Conduct; and

b) to consider appeals from members against the decisions of local authority standards committees that they have breached the Code of Conduct.

3.3 The APW publishes a report annually setting out its performance and progress, case summaries of determinations, business priorities and expenditure. A copy of the report for the year 2023/24 is attached at Appendix 1.

4. CONSULTEES

James Williams, Chief Officer Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

5. AUTHOR AND CONTACT DETAILS

Peter Easy, Chair, on behalf of the Standards Committee

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 - Annual Report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales 2023/24