PANEL DYFARNU CYMRU ADJUDICATION PANEL FOR WALES

NOTICE OF DECISION

TRIBUNAL REFERENCE NUMBER: APW/004/2024-025/CT

RESPONDENT: Former Councillor Andrew Edwards

RELEVANT AUTHORITIES: Pembrokeshire County Council

- 1. A Case Tribunal convened by the President of the Adjudication Panel for Wales has considered a reference in respect of the above Respondent.
- 2. The Adjudication Panel for Wales (the Tribunal) received a referral from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) in relation to allegations made against Former Councillor Edwards.
- 3. The PSOW made a reference to the Tribunal on 9 January 2025, with a final report of the same date. The Respondent was informed of the referral to the Tribunal on 28 January 2025.
- 4. The allegations were that he had breached the authority's Code of Conduct by firstly, recording a racist voice note that he sent to his then partner via the "WhatsApp" messaging application and secondly, that he shared information relating to Council business alongside disrespectful comments about members of the public to his then partner via "WhatsApp". He, thereby, demonstrated a failure to show respect to others and by so doing, brought his office and/or that of the authority, into disrepute.
- 5. The Case Tribunal determined its adjudication by way of written representations at a meeting on 18 June 2025 which was held by way of remote video-conferencing. The Case Tribunal unanimously found that the former Councillor had acted in breach of the Code, as set out in paragraph 4 above.
- 6. The Case Tribunal concluded by unanimous decision that the former Councillor Edwards should be disqualified from acting as a councillor for any authority for a period of 4 years in respect of all matters concurrently.
- 7. The Authority and its Standards Committee are notified accordingly.
- 8. The Respondent has the right to seek the leave of the High Court to appeal the above decision.
- 9. The Case Tribunal made no recommendations to the Authority.

Signed......Meleri Tudur.....

Date...18 June 2025.....

Judge Meleri Tudur President and Chair of the Case Tribunal

Miss S Hurds Panel Member

Mr D Morris Panel Member