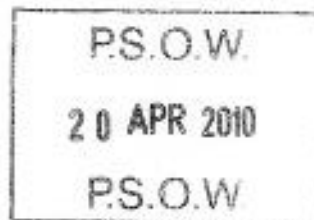


# Appendix

## 26





18<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Public Services Ombudsman For Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ

Dear Miss Phillips


I refer to your letter regarding a complaint against Cllr Simmonds.

From what I recall of that meeting there was a lot of aggression displayed by certain people but certainly not by Cllr Simmonds.

I can only recall a few occasions when he spoke. He asked the Treasurer 3 times to withdraw a comment he had made about not being trusted and when Mr Rob Gough made a statement regarding the accounts, Cllr Simmonds said he thought it was done differently at other meetings. There was certainly nothing in the way he spoke or acted that would justify a complaint being made against him.

On the other hand there were several other people including the Chair Cllr T Williams whose behaviour was unacceptable.

Yours sincerely

RT 

R T Edwards



# Appendix

## 27



26 April 2010

FAO Miss L Philips  
Ombudsman  
Pencoed.

Re: Graham Simmonds

Dear Miss Philips

I have read your communication regarding a complaint about Mr G Simmonds along with the associated meeting minutes,

In my opinion the complaint is completely unfounded.

It is my opinion that:

The meeting was unruly because of the lack of control by the Chairman.

The most vociferous individual at the meeting was the Treasurer who appeared uneasy about responding to questions regarding his accounts.

Mr Simmonds at no time acted in a manner other than as a concerned and responsible individual.

At no time did Mr Simmonds raise his voice to ask a question or make any other point.

At no time did he ask questions or make requests which were inappropriate in the circumstances.

I repeat my earlier statement that the complaint made is completely unfounded. Also I believe that grave questions should be raised as to why this complaint has been made by a senior, professional officer of the local council when the whole object of the meeting was to attempt to ensure the local partnership was being managed in a correct manner.

Yours sincerely



Colin L Thomas  
(Secretary)



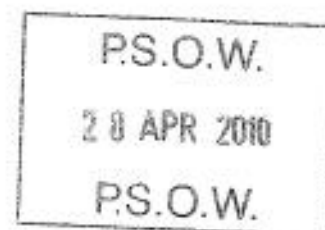


# Appendix

## 28



Miss L Phillips  
Investigator Ombudsman 1Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ



10<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Dear Miss Phillips,

**Complaint from Mrs T Macmahon against Mr Graham Simmonds.**

In reply to your letter regarding Item 3 on the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009 copies of the accounts were distributed to the members of the meeting and it was raised that the accounts were not given to the members with enough time for them to look at before the meeting began.

I personally was under the impression that the accounts should have been given 5- 7 days before the meeting for members to look through and write down any questions which they would like to put to the treasurer. As stated it was written on the accounts that they were audited, but the accounts we all received were not signed and no one seemed to take ownership of them.

I do not think that any lack of trust was implied, but as members of the partnership surely we should be able to ask and receive answers to any thing we are unsure of.

I don't remember anybody disagreeing with Mr Bridgeman being asked to attend the meeting for any queries that members would have and myself I would have thought that this would have solved a lot of problems.

The meeting was an AGM to accept the accounts why were the police asked to attend? at the time they did, I also thought that Inspector Childs was totally out of order with his remarks and I did not wished to spoken to in the manner he displayed

As for any complaints against Graham Simmonds my understanding is that he was not present at the meeting as Councillor Simmonds but as resident. This statement is made continually by Mr Gough who constantly says he is not there as Councillor Gough but Mr Gough of Garvo so how can one person be just Mr Gough in these meeting and the other be Councillor Simmonds?. I don't think that Mr Simmonds was out of order and a complaint should not be made against him as far as I am aware as Councillor Simmonds as he was not present in the meeting under this title. The total meeting was farcical and the procedure was very heated with many of the parties not brought to order by the Chairman.

Yours sincerely,

Meryl Thomas



# Appendix

## 29



**RESTRICTED – FOR POLICE AND PROSECUTION ONLY  
(when complete)**Witness contact details

Home address: C/O Blackwood Police Station

Postcode:

Home telephone No:

Work telephone No: 01633 838111

Mobile/Pager No:

E-mail address:

Preferred means of contact: Work only

Male/Female (delete as applicable)

Date and place of birth: 07<sup>th</sup> August 1967 NOTTINGHAM

Former name: Searcy

Height: 5' 8"

Ethnicity Code: W1

Dates of witness non-availability: See MG10

Witness care

a) Is the witness willing and likely to attend court? Yes / No. If 'No', include reason(s) on form MG6. What can be done to ensure attendance?

b) Does the witness require 'special measures' as a vulnerable or intimidated witness Yes / No. If 'Yes' submit MG2 with file.

c) Does the witness have any specific care needs? Yes / No. If 'Yes' what are they? (Hearing, childcare, transport, disability, language difficulties, visually impaired, restricted mobility or other concerns?)

Witness Consent (for witness completion)

a) The criminal justice process and Victim Personal Statement scheme (victims only) has been explained to me: Yes / No

b) I have been given the leaflet 'Giving a witness statement to the police - what happens next?' Yes / No

c) I consent to police having access to my medical record(s) in relation to this matter: Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

d) I consent to my medical record in relation to this matter being disclosed to the defence: Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

e) I consent to the statement being disclosed for the purposes of civil proceedings e.g. child care proceedings (if applicable): Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

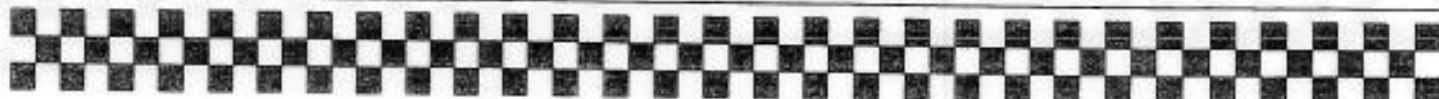
f) The information recorded above will be disclosed to the Witness Service so that they can offer help and support, unless you ask them not to. Tick this box to decline their services: ☐

Signature of witness:

Statement taken by (print name): SUSAN FAUCONER

Station: BLACKWOOD

Time and place statement taken: 1330HRS BLACKWOOD LPO OFFICE



**RESTRICTED (when complete)**

P.S.O.W.

29 APR 2010

P.S.O.W.

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

URN

Statement of: SUSAN LYNNE FALCONER

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

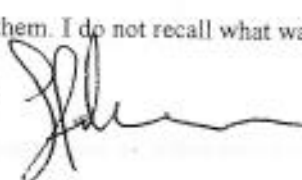
Occupation: PCSO 163 FALCONER

This statement (consisting of 1 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: .....

Date 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2010Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am a Police Community Support Officer serving with Gwent Police. On 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009 I attended a Cefn Fforest Partnership meeting along with Inspector Childs at Cefn Fforest Community Centre. Whilst there, there was a discussion on the End of Year Accounts where Councillor Simmonds and a number of people were questioning discrepancies found within the Accounts and they were refusing to endorse them. I do not recall what was said exactly and soon after the discussions started myself and Inspector Childs left the meeting.



Signature: .....



Signature witnessed by: .....

PTO



# Appendix

30



P.S.O.W.

28 APR 2010

P.S.O.W.

The Ombudsman  
Miss L Phillips  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ

24 April 2010  
(re: complaint by Tina McMahon)

Dear Miss Phillips,

At the meeting of Cefn Fforest Community Partnership, Mr Graham Simmonds complained that he was not given the accounts before the meeting took place in order to go through them. Over and over he said "we need time to go through them". As a result Mr Simmonds and his friends repeatedly refused to accept any discussion on the accounts and refused an offer to take them home to study them. Mr Simmonds became insistent on this refusal and when the Treasurer, suggested this implied a lack of trust in the auditor and the respected organisation, Mr Simmonds demanded an apology. He kept saying "I want that remark withdrawn" "I want that remark withdrawn" He maintained this incessant demand, which was repetitive and aggressive, for about 10 minutes until the Treasurer apologised in order to move the meeting on.

Mr Simmonds and his friends prevented any progress in the meeting with their conduct, repeated refusals and attitude. So much so that the new police Chief Inspector who was waiting to speak came in and said 'their attitude was very unbecoming and they were not acting in the interests of the community'. He said his time was valuable and he left!

The Chairman then asked Mr Simmonds several times if he would withdraw his seconding of the motion to reject the accounts but Mr Simmonds refused to do so, stating "it's not my amendment".

Mrs T McMahon said if this conduct and non progress of the meeting continued she would withdraw her staff from this meeting. It did continue and given the repeated conduct and attitude of Mr Simmonds, the meeting was suspended.

Throughout this entire meeting Mr Simmonds acted in a demeaning and insulting manner toward both officers and staff. I would add that it became obvious from the outset, that Mr Simmonds and his colleagues were determined to be purposely disruptive of this Partnership meeting.

Eileen Williams

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eileen Williams". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name.

# Appendix

31



P.S.O.W.

28 APR 2010

P.S.O.W.

26 April 2010

Miss L Phillips  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ

Dear Miss Phillips,

As Chairman of the Cefn Fforest Community Partnership, I opened the meeting by asking the committee to accept the accounts as presented so that we could discuss them in detail. Although the accounts had been independently audited and found to be in order, Cllr Simmonds said he would 'not accept them as he had not had time to study them'. Cllr Simmonds and his colleagues made it absolutely clear that they had no intention of accepting the accounts at this meeting. In order to get over this impasse, I suggested that after the formal acceptance of the accounts, they could be taken home and studied and a new meeting would be reconvened in a week or two with the main auditor.

Cllr Simmonds and his colleagues uncompromisingly refused to accept this offer. At each stage throughout this meeting I found Cllr Simmonds' conduct and manner to be belligerent and aggressive.

Two other points I recall that may be of relevance.

Firstly, I remember police Chief Inspector Childs who was left waiting to address us, being absolutely appalled by the conduct of Cllr Simmonds and his colleagues and unprecedentedly made mention of that fact.

And secondly, after a former Head of Blackwood Comprehensive School moved a motion to accept the accounts, an amendment was proposed not to accept them. This amendment was seconded by Cllr Simmonds. I again suggested that they take them home and come back with any questions. To that end I asked Cllr Simmonds to withdraw his seconding of the amendment because if he were to do so I knew the proposer would then withdraw his motion. Unsurprisingly, given his behaviour and manner he refused my offer. Tina McMahon then stated she would have to withdraw her staff from the meeting if it was to continue in this way.

In summary, the attitude and conduct of Cllr Simmonds and some of his colleagues was very aggressive to say the least and in my opinion brought the partnership into disrepute.

Yours faithfully  
Cllr J Williams



# Appendix

32





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& development**

Local training, for local people,  
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Dyffryn Business Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed. CF82 7RJ

Tel: 01443 863054 Fax: 01443 812229

Email: daryl.harries@gavowales.org.uk

Our Ref:

Your Ref: 200901218/LP

Date: 29 April 2010

P.S.O.W.

30 APR 2010

P.S.O.W.

Miss L. Phillips  
Public Services Ombudsman for Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae,  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ

Dear Miss Phillips

Further to your letter of 16 April 2010 regarding your ongoing investigation into an alleged breach of the code of conduct for members by Councillor G Simmonds.

I was in attendance at the meeting of the Cefn Forrest Community First Partnership on 9 July 2009. As a new employee of Community Learning & Development, this was my first and only Community First meeting with this Partnership and as a result I did not know any of the participants. Therefore, I am unable to make fair comment as to who said what at this meeting.

With regard to the content of the meeting, I can confirm that it was a very fraught and heated affair with some allegations made as to the timing of the presentation of Partnership accounts before the meeting. The meeting did travel around and around the point, without making any real progress, until such a point when Inspector Childs left to take a call. On his return he addressed the meeting in the manner noted in the minutes. Very soon after these remarks the meeting broke down irretrievably and was drawn to a premature close without any acceptance of the accounts or agreement being made or useful progress to this end being achieved.



communities first cymunedau yn gyntaf



**GREATER  
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I apologise for my limited help in this matter, but as I stated earlier, I did and still do not know the all individuals involved and feel it inappropriate to apportion any comments to individuals with this only limited knowledge and degree of uncertainty.

If I can offer any further help in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Daryl Harries

Learning and Development Officer

# Appendix

33



# GWENT POLICE

## REPORT

|               |                        |       |                |
|---------------|------------------------|-------|----------------|
| From:         | Inspector Kevin Childs | To:   | Laura Phillips |
| Internal Ext: | N/a                    | Date: | 02/May/2010    |
| Station:      | Blackwood              |       |                |

Ref No

Subject: Your Ref: 200901218/LP

Examined and forwarded

P.S.

/ /

Inspector

/ /

Submitted to  
Ch/Superintendent

I am a Police Inspector employed by Gwent Police. I am the Inspector responsible for Neighbourhood Policing in Blackwood and Ystrad Mynach.

On the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 I attended the Cefn Fforest Communities First Partnership meeting. Due to work commitments, I am unable to attend as many of these meetings as I would like. The purpose of my attendance was to introduce myself to the members who I hadn't previously met, and to answer any question the partnership may have had regarding local policing issues. I was accompanied by PCSO Susan Falconer and we sat close to the Chair person.

A short while into the meeting they began to discuss the partnership accounts. The treasurer of the partnership presented the accounts distributing copies to the members. It was explained that the accounts had been independently audited and the members were asked to agree the accounts.

At this point I noticed Councillor Graham Simmonds to be present. I had previously met him and recognised him immediately. Although I don't remember the words used by Councillor Simmonds, I do recall his behaviour. Councillor Simmonds refused to agree to the accounts. Despite numerous attempts from the Chair/Treasure to help clarify the situation Cllr Simmonds repeatedly obstructed the process by repeating his objection without explaining his reasons. I distinctly recall being amazed at the fact that Cllr Simmonds would not accept what appeared to be very reasonable requests. As the 'arguing' continued Cllr Simmonds became more agitated. He was so persistent that I would even go so far as to describe it as aggressive.

The meeting deteriorated to a situation where I felt the meeting was getting out of control.

I addressed the meeting explaining my disappointment in what I had seen. I outlined my reasons for having attended the meeting and explained that I felt they had missed an opportunity to enquire as to the performance of the local policing team and the work they were doing with the partnership. I added that some of those present should ask themselves why they want to be part of the partnership. I then left the meeting.

The behaviour I had witnessed did nothing for the partnership or local community. I have attended Communities First Partnership meetings in other areas where those present worked as a team and helped one another to discuss, resolve and develop local issues. The behaviour I witnessed at the meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July was unhelpful and poor.

Kevin Childs.

Gwent Police  
Report

Continuation Page 2

Subject: Your Ref: 200901218/LP



# Appendix

34



MR DELWYN DAVIES

P.S.O.W.

- 5 MAY 2010

P.S.O.W.

28/4/2010

TO LAUR PHILLIPS

Councillor SIMMONDS.

was known to the  
chair and ~~was~~ to

by some ~~man~~ of the  
staff of the site

site would withdraw from

the meeting ~~to~~ would

don the same. And the

chair stop meeting if would

stop the meeting as well

Yours sincerely

DELWYN DAVIES



# Appendix

35



P.S.O.W

- 6 MAY 2010

P.S.O.W.

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010

Dear Miss Phillips

In reply to your letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010, First I should like to point out the minutes of this meeting have not been accepted as a true record by the partnership. When they come to the partnership certain alterations will have to be made, as at present they do not represent a true record.

From the outset the mood of the meeting was very confrontational, the treasurer distributed the accounts only minutes before we were asked to approve them, a situation I still find more than a little strange. The partnership is alleged to be in the ownership of the community, not in the preserve of the paid advisors in the room. If I am incorrect please advise, if we are simply there to rubber stamp whatever is put before us, I see no reason to attend in the future.

The questioning of the accounts was a fraught affair, it seemed every question was a source of irritation to the treasurer and the paid advisers, Mr Paul Dury led the questioning of the accounts and I must say he did not receive many adult responses. I believe, because of the bullying nature of the meeting, an amendment to the acceptance of the accounts was moved by Mr Royston Edwards.

The treasurer and the paid advisers became very agitated at this point. The treasurer shouted "you are calling Mr Mike Bridgeman a liar if you don't accept these accounts, are you calling him a liar?" Cllr Simmonds asked the treasurer to withdraw this remark, the treasurer refused. In all I think Cllr Simmonds was forced to ask five or six times, finally speaking to the chairman, he asked for the treasurer to be instructed to withdraw the slur on the partnership, or leave.

Mrs Tina MacMahon in a determined and threatening manner intervened to claim "if you don't accept the accounts now, I shall withdraw my staff" I was aghast, I sit there for the benefit of my community and my friends in the area. Not to bullied and threatened into accepting a set of sketchy accounts, by a council official.

The police inspector, in a clear attempt to "build community relations" claimed he would like to slap the cuffs on us all and march us down to the station. A formal complaint was made to Gwent police about his outrageous comments, he has since apologised.

What is missing from this set of much massaged minutes is any reference to the thuggish behaviour of the chair and treasurer, not to mention the very unprofessional and intimidating behaviour of the paid advisers. No Mention is made of the chair swearing at a volunteer, or the treasurer coming around at the end of the meeting and snatching back the accounts, mumbling and muttering all the while.

This meeting was a bear pit from start to finish, the chair and treasurer supported by paid advisors, were determined to force through the accounts, seemingly at all costs.

A rational person would ask what could possibly be behind the aggression shown by the chair and treasurer, it must be easier to just answer the questions. The paid advisors were only adding fuel to the fire by refusing to answer questions asked of them. Cllr Simmonds certainly did ask questions, he was most defiantly not abusive, but I reaffirm the amendment to have more time to read the accounts did not come from Cllr Simmonds, it came from Mr Roy Edwards.

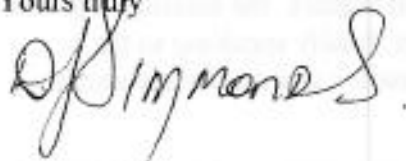
A fact that should be contained in these minutes, it's a sad reflection of the general lack of any professional ethic being present in the room that night, the name of the proposer of the amendment, is not there. There appears to have been a rewriting of the minutes to sanitise them, in order to support this complaint and exonerate the chair and treasurer together with the paid advisors. Let me again state these minutes have not been accepted as a true record by the partnership.

We the volunteers were there to be told what to do, and to be threatened and bullied until we did. May I say how proud I am of the volunteers from Cefn Fforest that night that we refused to be bullied? May I also express my shock at the quite shameful behaviour and bad language of the chair?

If Communities First is conducted in this manner all over Wales, then it is no wonder the Welsh Assembly Regeneration Committee has found it to be such a shameful waste of money. I did not volunteer to be treated in this way, by people paid to help, but resort to threats and intimidation at the drop of an account sheet.

Don't council employees have to have a certain regard to the public, when dealing with them? Please remember the money we were talking about, belongs to the people of Cefn Fforest, my friends. I wish I could tell them all of the restraint shown that night, in the face of determined intimidation, from paid advisors to the partnership, they were awful.

Yours truly



Mrs D. Simmonds



# Appendix

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**GWENT  
ASSOCIATION OF  
VOLUNTARY  
ORGANISATIONS**

Unit 1A, 1st Floor, Withey Dyffryn Court,  
Dyffryn Business Park,  
Ystrad Mynach, HENGOED  
CF82 7RJ

TEL: 01443 863540

FAX: 01443 812292

Email: [firstname.surname@gavowales.org.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@gavowales.org.uk)

(Est. 1927)

Public Services Ombudsman For Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ

Your Ref: 200901218/LP

4<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Dear Miss Phillips

With reference to your letter of 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010 relating to a complaint made by Mrs Tina McMahon about Councillor Graham Simmonds.

The meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009 was a Special General Meeting of Cefn Fforest Communities First Partnership with one item on the agenda and that item was to accept and agree the accounts for 2008/2009. The Chairman, Tom Williams, dealt with the preliminaries i.e. welcome, introduction and apologies.

The members of the partnership of which Cllr Simmonds was one were given a copy of the audited accounts, at this point the tone of the meeting changed. Cllr Simmonds stated that to receive the accounts on the night of the meeting was unacceptable at which point I asked the Chairman if I could explain that within the voluntary sector this practice was common at which point Cllr Simmonds became annoyed and commented that in Local Government this would not have happened and he was right in his comment except that this was the voluntary sector and not Local Government. Cllr Simmonds' attitude and body language became aggressive. Cllr Simmonds' comments also changed and some were based on personal criticism of both the Chairman and the Treasurer and at one point Cllr Simmonds questioned the integrity of Mike Bridgman, Assistant Director of GAVO in Caerphilly at which point the Treasurer, Chris Hawker, reminded Cllr Simmonds of what he had said at which point Cllr Simmonds denied making any such comment his tone and behaviour became very aggressive and belligerent.

The Chairman attempted to calm things down by suggesting that the meeting should adjourn for twenty minutes to allow people to study the accounts at which point the meeting would reconvene and the Treasurer would answer questions related to the accounts. This proposed action was snubbed by Cllr Simmonds and members of the Community Centre Management Committee of which Cllr Simmonds is also a member. The tone of the meeting became even more aggressive and suggestions were made that there were improprieties within the

P.S.O.W.

- 6 MAY 2010

P.S.O.W.



accounts and that twenty minutes was not sufficient to carry out detailed scrutiny of the accounts. When it became clear that we were not going to make any progress Inspector Childs, the Ward Officer and PCSO gave their apologies and left the meeting. Inspector Childs immediately returned to the meeting and informed the meeting that he had never encountered such behaviour in all his years of policing even when he worked in London. The comments of the Inspector made no difference at all to Cllr Simmonds and members of the Community Centre Management Committee.

The behaviour of certain people within the meeting deteriorated further at which point Mrs McMahon informed the meeting that if the behaviour continued she would have no alternative than to remove the Communities First staff from the meeting. I was very concerned that the meeting was going to get really out of hand and I turned to Mrs McMahon who was sat next to me to tell her of my concerns and that I was going to advise the Chairman to adjourn the meeting, at which point Cllr Simmonds commented to myself and Mrs McMahon as he thought we were talking about him which was not the case.

I advised the Chairman and the members of the meeting that the meeting should be adjourned.

The Chairman took my advice and advised those in attendance that the accounts that were distributed would be collected in and a new meeting date would be set and the accounts would be sent to members of the partnership seven days in advance of the newly proposed meeting, this action was agreed although several people including Cllr Simmonds was still going on about various issues some not related to this meeting.

I have been working with the Communities First Programme since the year 2000 and attended countless meetings but I have never ever come across behaviour and atmosphere as I witnessed that night.

What was also saddening is that we who are involved with the Communities First Programme, Officers and Volunteers are tasked to identify new members to join the partnership from the community. On that evening there were two new residents from the community in attendance and they left the meeting stating that they would never attend another meeting again as a result of the behaviour they had witnessed. One of Mrs McMahon's Officers, Amy, ran after them to apologise and to try and persuade them to reconsider their decision but sadly we have not seen them since.

Yours sincerely

  
Rob Gough  
Senior Development Officer

# Appendix

## 37



I refer to the Partnership meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009. This was my first Partnership meeting as Chair of Cefn Fforest Community Centre. I would like to state that I had gone with the intention of asking questions in relation to the Partnership Accounts and also to get better acquainted with the running of the Partnership and those people involved. From the beginning of the meeting I noticed the animosity and ferocity of Cllr. Williams and Mr. Hawker (Treasurer) toward Cllr. Simmonds. My financial background leads me to the decision that I would not agree to pass accounts which I was handed on the night and agree to straight away. Mr. Gough of Gavo insisted that to his knowledge this was correct and that we should pass them.

It was from this point that Mr Hawker began throwing accusations at Cllr. Simmonds stating "are you calling Mike Bridgeman (the auditor of the accounts) a liar?" Cllr Simmonds asked calmly for Mr. Hawker to retract this statement on 5 occasions following this as we were only asking for the correct amount of time allocated by law to go through the accounts. Due to our continued refusal the officers present from Caerphilly County Borough began to try and pressure members into accepting the accounts. As Mr Hawker continued to wrongly accuse Cllr. Simmonds of not trusting the Auditor, Cllr Williams (Chair of the Partnership) continued to ignore the need to call Mr. Hawker to order.

Ms McMahon then threatened to withdraw her staff stating that "we should be proud to have such a good set of accounts". The meeting was closed by Cllr Williams when no agreement could be reached. At the end of the meeting I clearly heard Cllr Williams state "You and your f\*cking cronies did this" to Mr C. Thomas (Secretary). At no time did I see or hear Cllr. Simmonds being threatening or impolite to officers. Throughout the meeting Cllr Simmonds remained calm and collected, and it was infact Cllr. Williams and Officers who were threatening. As such I believe that Officers were interfering in the meeting and as such attempting to lead the meeting. Furthermore, I felt the conduct of Cllr. Williams toward the meeting and specifically Cllr. Simmonds and Mr. Thomas to be a further matter for your consideration.

Further to this I considered Cllr. Williams' allowance of giving Inspector Childs opportunity to speak down to members of the meeting a gross abuse of position since the Inspector had attended the wrong meeting and was not due to speak until the ordinary meeting which followed. It was my feeling that Mrs Macmahon and other officers were merely trying to force members into a decision by threatening to withdraw support.

It is a great disappointment to myself and the public that officers who are failing to get their own way will stoop to such levels as to report representatives for something that did not occur.





# Appendix

38



P.S.O.W.

- 4 MAY 2010

P.S.O.W.

Dear Ms Phillips,

Can I first apologise for the delay in replying to your letter but I have been so busy I forgot that I had not dealt with it.

With regards to your question on the meeting of the partnership on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2009, I do not understand why Mrs MacMahon stated that Mr Simmonds breached the code of conduct at the meeting.

I was sat next to Mr Simmonds on that night, he was there as a duly elected member of the committee and as a resident of Cefn Fforest. The only time I recall Mr Simmonds speaking was when he asked the chairman Mr Williams to ask the treasurer Mr Hawker to withdraw a comment he made with regards to the committee members not trusting the auditor when issues arose over the accounts. Mr Simmonds had to ask this 5 times because the chairman was not prepared to listen. He seemed only concerned that the committee members found it necessary to ask questions about some issues of the accounts and that it had not happened before on previous meetings.

It was clear that the members of the committee were not happy that they had not had time to read the accounts prior to the meeting and felt that they should have had time to go over the accounts properly before accepting them. It seemed to me that at previous meetings the accounts were accepted on the say of the executive but this time there were more committee members at the meeting who were not prepared to accept the accounts without further scrutiny.

It was at this stage that the chairman and the treasurer got very frustrated and things got heated and it was at this point Inspector Childs stood up and stated that he had never witnessed such behaviour, he was directing his opinion at the members and not at the executive or the Garvo members who were equally as heated, quite frankly spoke to us like we were children. He then left the meeting, that is when Mrs MacMahon stood up and stated that she would withdraw her staff from any further meetings if they were not conducted in the proper manner.

I was not happy with what she said because she gets paid to do her job which is to advise us on funding etc. and I am a volunteer and I did not go to the meeting to be spoken to like that.

Mr Simmonds had still not made any comments at this stage even when Mr Gough (a councillor working with Garvo) stated and I quote "we all know where this came from Graham Simmonds" unquote. It was plain to me that Mr Gough felt that Mr Simmonds had schooled the members, but that was not so.

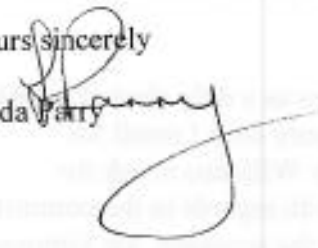
I felt Mr Simmonds acted with diplomacy and decorum and was unfairly blamed for some of the issues brought up at the meeting for which he had no input.

After the meeting had been suspended I also over heard some extremely bad language uttered by the chairman to the secretary which I felt was in very bad taste and reeked of "sour grapes" which was uncalled for.

I hope my recollections of the meeting are satisfactory.

Yours sincerely

Linda Perry



# Appendix

39



Community Regeneration  
Tredomen House  
Nelson Road  
Ystrad Mynach  
CF82 7WF

4<sup>th</sup> May 2010

To whom it may concern

I am writing in response to your letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

The Cefn Fforest Community Partnership meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July was my first meeting of the Cefn Fforest Community partnership as Communities First Coordinator for Mid Valleys East. I am unable to quote specific remarks that Councillor Simmonds made due to the length of time that has passed since the meeting. From my recollection, there was unrest amongst some of the members at the meeting as the accounts had been presented on the evening of the Annual General meeting, rather than having the accounts in advance to peruse. There were several attempts to compromise on a suitable way forward at the meeting and advice provided by the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations. Unfortunately several members did not take regard of this information and the meeting became increasingly inhospitable. Several members became quite aggressive and I believe Councillor Simmonds to be one of these members. I do recall Councillor Simmonds and the treasurer disagreeing about a comment made regarding the accounts under item 3 and Councillor Simmonds asking the treasurer to withdraw his comment on several occasions.

The Partnership is made up of voluntary, statutory and community members and this behaviour damages the Community Partnership and its membership. Both the former Head Teacher and Inspector for Blackwood Police Station commented on the conduct at the meeting being inappropriate.

Yours Faithfully,

Rachael Clarke  
Communities First Coordinator Mid Valleys East  
Tel: 01443 864226  
Email: [clarkrl@Caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:clarkrl@Caerphilly.gov.uk)





# Appendix

## 40



P.S.O.W.

11 MAY 2010

P.S.O.W.

Mrs Gaynor Roper  
Tredomen House  
Nelson Road  
Tredomen  
CF82 7WF

Dear Ms Phillips

Re: Ref: 200901218/LP

I am writing in reply to your letter regarding a complaint made by Mrs T McMahon against Cllr Graham Simmonds.

I have a very vague recollection of the meeting, other than to recall that there appeared to be two opposing sides in the ensuing dispute. Any other comments that were made at the time were taken down in the minutes.

Yours sincerely



G N Roper



# Appendix

41



P.S.O.W.

30 APR 2010

P.S.O.W.

Dear sir/madame

I fully support Tina McMahon in taking a stand on the attitude of councillor G Simmonds, whilst at a meeting of the communities first committee to discuss the annual accounts.

Disruption was caused by councillor simmonds and members of the community centre with what Chief Inspector Childs described as uncalled for behaviour.

Due to the disruption by these members Tina McMahon informed the chairman that she would withdraw her staff to save them from the verbal abuse at this meeting. Tina McMahon was then informed by councillor simmonds that she was out of order in an obnoxious manner.

Yours faithfully C.L.HAWKER  
TREASURER.

## **2. Procedure for Special Meeting**

Members of the meeting were informed that the accounts couldn't be signed off during the AGM held on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009, as there was an invoice missing. A copy of the invoice has since been obtained allowing the signing off of the accounts to proceed. A request had been made at the AGM for Mike Bridgman (GAVO) to audit the accounts, which he has done.

## **3. Agreement of Cefn Fforest Partnerships Accounts 2008/2009**

Copies of the accounts were distributed to members of the meeting. It was raised that Partnership members had not been given enough time to look over the accounts prior to the meeting. Rob Gough explained that it is customary practice for accounts to be presented at the meeting, the treasurer can then go through the accounts verbally and the Partnership are given the opportunity to ask any questions. It was brought to the attention of the meeting that other meetings e.g. Local Government, are conducted differently and the accounts are presented before the meeting. It was explained that Communities First is different from Local Government, and that an independent auditor has inspected the accounts and found them to be in order. The Chair advised that he would ensure the accounts were sent out one week prior to the next AGM.

It was suggested by the Treasurer that, as some members of the Partnership would not accept the accounts without inspecting them first, it might imply a lack of trust in the external auditor. Cllr Simmonds asked the Treasurer to withdraw this comment, which he did.

In order to move the meeting on, it was suggested, that the accounts could be accepted at this meeting and another meeting could be arranged to ask any questions when Partnership members had been given time to look them over. It was recommended that the Partnership invite Mike Bridgman to this meeting. Some members of the meeting disagreed with this suggestion and reiterated that they wished to take the accounts away for inspection.

Partnership members continued to disagree on the appropriate way to take the meeting forward, which prompted Inspector Childs to address those present to make clear that he was very disappointed with what he had witnessed during the evening. He explained that he cannot attend as many Partnership meetings as he would like to, and the Partnership had now missed an opportunity to put their questions to him. He thanked everyone for inviting him to the meeting, but questioned why people were actually there.



Tina McMahon stated that four of her staff were present and that she would withdraw them from the meeting if it was not conducted in the appropriate manner of Communities First.

Some members of the meeting insisted that they would stand by their amendment and would not discuss the accounts. The meeting was therefore suspended.

The Chair informed the meeting that Amy Jones is moving from Mid Valleys East in order to widen her experience of Communities First. He thanked her for the work that she has put into the Partnership during the past year. Mike Pickard is also leaving and the Chair asked for the Partnership to give permission for a letter to be written to express thanks for his support.



# Appendix

42



12 MAY 2010

P.S.O.W.

Your ref: 2499/200901218/LP

11/5/10

I re Ms Phillips

Re: Complaint against Councillor E. Simmonds  
Further to your letter of 10th May 2010  
Please find below my observations with  
regard to the meeting of 9th July 2009.

When the Treasurer made his remark  
about some members might be implying  
a lack of trust in the external auditor  
it was totally incorrect and not the  
issue.

When Councillor Simmonds requested the  
remark be withdrawn, it went unanswered  
he repeated his request a further three  
or four times before the remark was  
withdrawn.

The handling of the situation by the  
Chairman seemed to be a ~~bit~~ more responsive

had he acted on Mr Demond's first request, the situation in question would not have arisen.

I was also in favour of not accepting the accounts and any thoughts of the Auditor did not even enter my mind.

In my opinion if Mr MacMahon was not happy with any requests or remarks, she should have asked the Chairman for a ruling on the issue. She acted improperly by threatening to withdraw her staff from the meeting. There is a lot wrong with the Cdn Forest Partnership, mainly the attitudes of the Executive and some of their associates.

In Conclusion no swearing, no threats, no abuse, no insults took place, just a simple request that a remark be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely



Paul F.S. Dugby.

# Appendix

43





2499\200901218

Case against Caerphilly County Borough Council by

Tina MacMahon

created by Laura Phillips on 07/05/2010

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Sender:                 | Laura Phillips<br><Laura.Phillips@ombudsman-wales.org.uk> |
| Recipient(s):           | Mike Pickard  |
| Sent Date:              | 07/05/2010 09:42  |
| Email To Complainant:   | No  |
| Email To Relevant Body: | No  |
| Title:                  | RE: Request for information - ref: 200901218/LP           |

Dear Mr. Pickard

Thank you for your e-mail and for responding to my letter. I am sorry about the difficulty with the letter reaching you.

Regards

Laura Phillips  
Investigator

Public Services Ombudsman for Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed CF35 5LJ  
01656 641168  
laura.phillips@ombudsman-wales.org.uk

**From:** Mike Pickard  
**Sent:** 06 May 2010 17:13  
**To:** Laura Phillips  
**Subject:** Request for information - ref: 200901218/LP

Dear Ms Phillips

I have only today ( 6<sup>th</sup> May) received your letter of 16<sup>th</sup> April which was sent to me at Blackwood Comprehensive School, where I was Headteacher until August 2009. It has since been forwarded to me but, clearly, there has been a considerable time-lag in it reaching me and the date in your letter by which you requested information has now actually passed.

You asked if I was able to provide information in relation to a complaint against the conduct of Councillor Simmonds at a meeting of the Cefn Fforest

Communities First Partnership Board on 9<sup>th</sup> July.

I did attend that meeting, but I am afraid that I would not be able to make any specific comment or observations about any contributions made by Councillor Simmonds in relation to the agenda item to which you refer, or any other during the meeting. I have to admit to having no idea what the 'issue' around the Partnership Accounts was at the time (or since!), and, although there were heated exchanges by many present at that meeting, I would not be able to associate specific comments with particular individuals present.

My involvement with the Partnership ended with my retirement in August 2009.

I am sorry that I am unable to assist you in this matter and my apologies, again, for the belated reply.

Regards

Mike Pickard  
Former-Headteacher,  
Blackwood Comprehensive School.

Document History  
Document Control

# Appendix

44



Ombudsman  
1Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
CF35 5LJ

17<sup>TH</sup> May 2010

Dear Miss Phillips

I attended a meeting of the Cefn Fforest Partnership on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009. There was a special meeting prior to the normal Partnership meeting to agree the accounts. I write in regard to the complaint of Ms. T McMahon reference: 200901218 concerning item 3 of the special meeting relating to the agreement of the Cefn Fforest Partnership Accounts for 2008/2009.

I recall there being some very heated discussion during this item, which culminated in Inspector Childs addressing the partnership in a stern manner. He said he had arrested people for less, and whilst not directed at Cllr Simmonds in particular but at everyone involved in the heated discussion, Cllr Simmonds was one of those involved. I believe the behaviour that led to Inspector Childs saying this is inappropriate for anyone taking part in a public meeting regardless of whether you are a Councillor or not. However, as a Councillor, Cllr Simmonds was representing the Council and should have behaved accordingly.

I believe that a Councillor supporting a Communities First Partnership should be impartial, and work for the good of the whole Partnership. However I felt Cllr Simmonds let his personal feelings show in this meeting. He was not acting for the good of the Partnership, but instead stirring things up contributing to the split in the Partnership during the meeting (one side arguing against the other).

It is hard to remember exact words after such a long time but what Inspector Childs said stuck in my mind. Also Cllr Simmonds was antagonistic towards members of the Partnership and in his role as Councillor I do not believe this was appropriate.

Yours Sincerely

*Amy Mason*

Amy Mason née Jones



# Appendix

45





2499\200901218

Case against Caerphilly County Borough Council by

Tina MacMahon

created by Laura Phillips on 18/05/2010

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Sender:                 | Laura Phillips<br><Laura.Phillips@ombudsman-wales.org.uk>   |
| Recipient(s):           | "Patterson, Jane" <PATTEJ1@CAERPHILLY.GOV.UK>               |
| Sent Date:              | 18/05/2010 15:12  |
| Email To Complainant:   | No  |
| Email To Relevant Body: | No  |
| Title:                  | RE: Complaint of Ms. T MacMahon Our reference:<br>200901218 |

Dear Ms. Patterson

Thank you for your e-mail and for your recollection of events which is helpful.

Regards

Laura Phillips  
Investigator

Public Services Ombudsman for Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed CF35 5LJ  
01656 641168  
laura.phillips@ombudsman-wales.org.uk

**From:** Patterson, Jane [mailto:PATTEJ1@CAERPHILLY.GOV.UK]  
**Sent:** 18 May 2010 15:00  
**To:** Laura Phillips  
**Cc:** Williams, Gail  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint of Ms. T MacMahon Our reference: 200901218

Dear Laura

I received your letter May 2010 and the meeting in question took place 9 July 2009 which is a long time ago and I can not remember a great detail from the meeting. I would say that the minutes are a true account of what happened .  
What the minutes do not show or express is the rudeness and aggressive manner displayed by councillor Simmons to other members of the partnership. There was clearly much animosity between certain partnership members.

My apologies for not responding earlier .  
Regards

PJ Patterson



# Appendix

46



**2499\200901218**

Case against Caerphilly County Borough Council by

Tina MacMahon

created by Laura Phillips on 21/05/2010

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Sender:                 | Laura Phillips<br><Laura.Phillips@ombudsman-wales.org.uk> |
| Recipient(s):           | "chas@psow.chas" <chas@psow.chas>                         |
| Sent Date:              | 21/05/2010 16:26  |
| Email To Complainant:   | No  |
| Email To Relevant Body: | No  |
| Title:                  | FW: meeting 9th july 2010 200901218                       |

**From:** Don Jones

**Sent:** 16 May 2010 10:10

**To:** Laura Phillips

**Subject:** meeting 9th july 2010

Miss Phillips  
regarding Mrs Macmahon re alleged councillor Simmonds conduct,  
to my knowlege i can not recall councillor Simmonds making any  
remark or remarks  
to Mrs Macmahon.  
Thankyou.  
Don Jones (phoenix)

Get a new e-mail account with Hotmail - Free. [Sign-up now.](#)

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Document Control



# Appendix

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18 Grange Hill

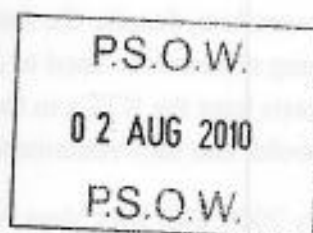
Bonnie View

Blackwood

Gwent

NP12 3PE

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010



Dear Miss Phillips

AS you can see from the attached letters, I called for the report on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008. The report was brought to scrutiny on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009, a delay of **FOURTEEN** months. I clearly asked for the Road Traffic Impact Assessments for the major developments in and around the Blackwood area.

I specifically asked for the RTI for The Northern Development of Blackwood, The Southern Development of Blackwood, The Sirhowy Enterprise Way, High Fields Housing Development 1150 homes, The Oakdale Development > 750 homes, and The Oakdale Industrial Development.

This following Mr Clive Campbell stating there were serious problems with traffic congestion in Blackwood. A statement I fully endorse, none of the RTI's were ever included in any planning application brought to planning by Caerphilly CBC. Yet each of the developments had a RTI, or could have been calculated using a system called TRICS, which is used across the U.K. to determine traffic flows before development takes place, not in Caerphilly though.

Mr Campbell and I had met quite a few times to discuss the report, unfortunately all, Mr Campbell had to offer were apologies, for the loss of each and every RTI. I have been told by the last director of the environment the SEW, RTI cost £50,000, so to lose one was extremely careless to lose SIX was to beggar belief.

The total traffic generation of these developments, impacts on my ward which is to the West of Blackwood, with an increase in traffic of approx 35%. Caerphilly has spent not one penny to mitigate traffic through my ward. All mitigation measures end at the Eastern boundary of Cefn Fforest. Many of the developments generate thousands of vehicles per day, Northern Dev 11,500 per day, High Fields 11,500 per day and so on.

But the Impact assessments were lost, for **FOURTEEN** months, as you are aware, Mr Campbell has a duty under The Ethical Code of Conduct for Qualifying Officers, Statutory Instrument 2001 no 2280 (W.170) to be Open, Impartial, Honest and Helpful. But the RTI's were lost, none of the developments could be run on TRICS, for they are not included in the report, despite the very specific request I made in writing, to Mr Campbell.

Despite everything they were lost, despite the fact I had read every RTI in the company of Mr Martin Morris, the planning officer who used to deal with the Mid Valleys East Team, Blackwood Area. Mr Morris kept the RTI's in the achieves, where any self respecting professional, I suspect would. But they remained lost, for **FOURTEEN** months.

At scrutiny on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009, Cllr Mrs Vera Jenkins refused to allow me to put the question to Mr Campbell that his report was not the report I had requested. No traffic generation figures were included for any development, let alone all of the developments I had requested. A clear failing to work within the Ethical Code. Not one of the developments were addressed in a professional manner and assessed for their impact on the area.

There were no five year projections, which could have been used as a bench mark and used in any assessment of the actual figures for generation, which would be actual counts at the date of the report. There were no twenty year figures which could have been used to help plan the next phase of development, hopefully the lessons learnt could be used to prevent a similar snarl up of the next town to be development. I fear that level of professionalism does not work for us in Caerphilly.

Mrs Jenkins, denied me the right to scrutinise Mr Campbell, on his chosen profession, Mrs Jenkins denied me the right to represent my ward which has been buried under, the all too predictable traffic from six major developments. SIX major developments and all the traffic from each and every one travelling in a Westerly direction from Blackwood, drives through Cefn Fforest.

Truly appalling levels of scrutiny, truly appalling levels of professionalism, a total determination to prevent, officers being exposed for missing the impact of development generated traffic and its effects. Scrutiny brought to the level of absolute farce. All the RTI's lost, all the effects of traffic sanitised, before our eyes. What had been serious traffic congestion as stated by Mr Campbell on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 in scrutiny became a chance to evade, prevaricate, and delay for **FOURTEEN** months.

Scrutiny failed to offer the chance to hold Mr Campbell to account, for his own statement made in scrutiny that "there is serious traffic congestion in Blackwood, April 1<sup>st</sup> 2008".

Scrutiny has failed to have any meaning to the public in Caerphilly CBC, of that there is no doubt. Mrs Jenkins fails to understand the concept of accountability by officers. The lady refused to instruct Mr Campbell to answer simple questions, Mrs Jenkins failed to understand Mr Campbell is required by the Code of Conduct to be open and honest, but most of all helpful, scrutiny failed.

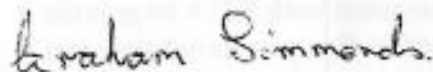
But after all the long **FOURTEEN** months of having explained to me about the lost RTI's, after the shambles of scrutiny on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009. **FOURTEEN** months where highways looked here and looked there, desperate to find hundreds of thousands pounds of professional work, the trauma of finding nothing.

But on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009, I received a letter from Mr T. Stephens, Development Control Manager for CCBC. Just five weeks after the shame of highways not being able to present the

RTI's. Mr Stephens had found the RTI's and if I wished to view them then I could. I could not take them back to scrutiny, for they had been dealt with in their absence. But after being lost for FOURTEEN months they had finally been found. Five weeks to late to be of any use. Such is the level of scrutiny in Caerphilly CBC, scrutiny is a statutory function of Local Government, under the Local Government Act 2000. By losing the RTI's the Statutory function was bypassed, scrutiny was bypassed, shame my ward cannot be bypassed.

I have been told I cannot make a complaint under The Ethical Code of Conduct for Qualifying Officers, Statutory Instrument 2001 no 2280 (W.170) as I am an elected councillor? But public servants can refuse to bring requested reports to scrutiny, despite scrutiny being a statutory function, despite the Ethical Code. This is described as democracy in Caerphilly.

Yours Truly

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham Simmonds". The script is cursive and fluid.

Graham Simmonds

18 Grange Hill  
Bonnie View  
Blackwood  
Gwent  
NP12 PE  
8<sup>th</sup> May 2008

---

FAO Mr J. Jones

Dear John

Re our conversation 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008, I should like the report to cover the road traffic impact assessments for, The Northern dev, The Southern Dev, SEW, High fields 1150 homes, Oakdale Dev 750? Homes, The Oakdale Industrial Dev.

Mr Clive Campbell in scrutiny 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 stated there were serious problems with traffic congestion in Blackwood. I agree, there is requirement with RTIA to provide a now figure traffic flows as of permission being granted, a five year projection and a twenty year projection. I would like them all and the recently taken traffic flow figures for Blackwood, peak and twenty four hour flows.

I would also be grateful for an explanation of why these traffic flows never made it into the planning reports, why spend thousands on environment impact assessments and sit on them?

Thanks John

Graham Simmonds

18 Grange Hill  
Bonnie View  
Blackwood  
Gwent

30<sup>th</sup> March 2001 *Italics added 21<sup>st</sup> May 2001 in reply to letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2001*

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF MR MARTIN MORRIS**

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the e-mail handed to me 29<sup>th</sup> March 2001 the questions listed page 2 are not an accurate record of the questions asked. From memory I asked on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2001

1. The traffic flow figures seemed to be low, has the impact of the northern development been taken into account? Eleven thousand five hundred more cars per day than the base year of calculation. I assume base year to be June 1999 same as base for SEW calculations?

*July 1999 - 17,250vpd      Northern Dev - 11,520vpd      Southern Dev - 7,500vpd  
Total - 36,540vpd      An Increase of - 19,020vpd      Percentage increase - 110.25%*

2. Has there been included the traffic growth expected as a result of the UDP? 6388 houses UDP predictions. Seven area forums, Mid Valley East one seventh plus allowance as area of growth I fully expect the total to be more than the present base figures June 1999.

*Very perceptive it is people who make journeys not houses. However there is a standard calculation based on the number of bedrooms equating to the number of cars times a standard number of journeys per day. Let me repeat what allowance for growth has there been in the Traffic Impact Assessment for the Area of Growth. Has any growth been calculated as I believe it should have been. I believe Caerphilly County Borough subscribes to the concept of integrated planning / sustainable development, even though I find very little evidence of the concept. Could you please humour me with the assessed figure for traffic increase in the area of growth?*

3. What allowance has been calculated for increased traffic flow as a result of SEW, Also SEW plus Oakdale Development?

*I am told the SEW will self generate 5,000 vehicles per day merely as a road. When the Oakdale Development is online, and the N.A.f.W. identifies Oakdale as a prime site for support following the Corus closure the traffic generated will be >15,000vpd. I welcome your comments on the validity of these figures. Could I also press you for your figures calculated as part of the integrated planning / sustainable development process. Based on Oakdale being the success we all hope and pray it will be.*



4. There appears to be a discrepancy in the floor space of the Southern Development I would appreciate White, Young and Green table figures for the Southern Development, latest applications. Expected final if available.

*I appreciate the simple answer, 7,500vpd and 504vph. If floor space changes may I please have the updates as a matter of course and not on the night of planning, as was the case with the Northern Development. As I get older the mental arithmetic gets harder to do, big numbers, pressure, I am sure you know what I mean. Also in the Ombudsman's Principles of Good Administrative Practice complicated information should be provided in writing 72 hours before meetings. The table provided is 2002 and based before the major impact of the development is a 2005 assessment available I feel it will represent a more accurate assessment of impact. Also the growth is calculated on an annual rate of increase of 3.3%. If question 1. is anywhere accurate 3.3% is a completely bogus assumption. I like to think our policy of integrated planning / sustainable development has scenarios that match the more likely traffic generation. Planning for people and communities is the aim I believe. As an aside please let me know where the 3.3% figure is derived from*

5. The expected increase in traffic from the west bearing in mind the closure of Gordon Road, and bearing in mind the effect of the SEW cross valley links. I also think there will be a general shift in traffic movements after SEW on Woodbine Road, Cefn Road and Pentwyn Road. All these roads will be within the links of SEW, and will I believe have an impact on the flow figures of Sunny Bank Road and Highfields Way.

*I must apologise after reading 5. Again it is loose. What I was trying to ask is, Gordon Road will be closed to traffic from the west at the Monkey Tree. Traffic generated west of the High Street and East of Bryn Road-Bedwellty Road will have the choice of Gordon Road, Woodbine Road, Cefn Road and Pentwyn Road. All these roads are within the SEW link roads and join the High Street where traffic calming will be considered "draconian", Gwent Consultancy reply to my question. These factors will I suggest push extra traffic on to Highfields Way and Sunny Bank Road. Traffic generated further west will I suggest use these roads as a matter of course, access strait onto the core network. What will be the effect on these two roads, Highfields and Sunny Bank, together with the anticipated increase on Bryn Road?*

If possible could these figures be at peak flow and twenty-four hour figures. I would be most grateful if this is possible. As you know I have my own calculations, which I have discussed with officers. My problem is I need a verified account to be taken seriously.

Yours Faithfully

Graham Simmonds

Cc Stuart Rosser    Dan Perkins    Justin Cooper

18 Grange Hill  
Bonnie View  
Blackwood  
Gwent  
NP12 3PE  
12<sup>th</sup> June 2008

FAO Mr C. Campbell

Dear Sir,

Re your letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008 on the proposed closure of Waunborfa Road. I should like to reply by the points raised in the report.

*3.1 To work towards a safer environment through positive measures to reduce road accidents and particularly for protecting and providing for vulnerable road users.*

Could I please draw your attention to an appeal Welsh Assembly ref no APP K6920/A/00/1040788, Caerphilly ref EN98/92, in the written statement of Caerphilly CBC, Caerphilly claim Waunborfa Road is no more than a rural lane for most of its length between the crossroads and the top of the hill where it reaches the housing estate.

In 1987 ref no 2/7391 an appeal was dismissed for the storage and maintenance of three haulage vehicles, three. The inspector in that decision in 1987 accepted the three vehicles would "intensify the use of Waunborfa Road, leading to unacceptable dangers to other road users" Since 1987 there has clearly been a huge increase in traffic.

*4.3 Further concerns have been received regarding safety of the poor junction arrangements of Waunborfa Road with the A4049, and the volume and speed of traffic using the route through Cefn Fforest.*

In 1987 appeal ref no 2/7391 the inspector Mr R.J. Amblin at point 3. Said " Waunborfa Road is only some 4m wide in places with high banks and no verges or footways for the protection of pedestrians, it is difficult for large vehicles to pass on the hill. The highway falls steeply from south to north past the appeal site between two sharp bends. The junction with Waunborfa Road and the A4049 suffers from poor visibility, high banks obstructing the view along the main road in both directions, from any point behind the A4049 boundary; about 2m back from the kerb line. This junction is substandard in current highway terms. Opposite the Waunborfa Road/ A4049 junction is the junction of the A469 leading south eastwards towards Ystrad Mynach. Both the A class roads are well used and I consider the crossroads to be hazardous for traffic using Waunborfa Road". I am not aware of any significant works to the junction of Waunborfa Road and A4049 in the interim. I am aware of a much increased volume of traffic in the area. I have since the UDP identified the developments in and around Blackwood brought to the attention of all the oversight of not providing a link for traffic between Sunnybank Road and the A4049, to no avail.

## 5.2 Blackwood Town Council.

Could I respectfully suggest if Blackwood Town Council had scrutinised the traffic implications of the developments in the area with some level of understanding, to the implications for the level of traffic generation expected from those developments they may be considered to be of relevance to the wellbeing of Blackwood.

## 5.6 Pengam School

I contrast this concern of more traffic not being in the best interests of the safety of the pupils with the recent planning permission to allow residential building behind Pencoed Avenue, in Cefn Fforest. All traffic from this development will have to be along Central Avenue, the road that bisects the primary school in Cefn Fforest, the second largest in the borough. The same school refused a bridge to cross the children between classes on the split site. The same school told to have a travel plan before any safety schemes can be considered.

## 5.7

- *Review strategic movements around Blackwood*

I would respectfully suggest this should have been done at the Environmental Impact Assessment of the developments in and around Blackwood.

- *Consider the impact of closing Waunborfa Road*

To even consider Waunborfa Road in the same context as strategic traffic movements around Blackwood, or linked with local distributor roads misses in my opinion the actuality of the nature of Waunborfa Road.

Could I please draw your attention to an appeal, Welsh Assembly ref no APP K6920/A/00/1040788, Caerphilly ref EN98/92, in the written statement of Caerphilly CBC, Caerphilly claim Waunborfa Road is no more than a rural lane for most of its length between the crossroads and the top of the hill where it reaches the housing estate.

In 1987 ref no 2/7391 an appeal was dismissed for the storage and maintenance of three haulage vehicles, three. The inspector in that decision in 1987 accepted the three vehicles would "intensify the use of Waunborfa Road, leading to unacceptable dangers to other road users"

In the 1987 appeal ref no 2/7391 the inspector Mr R.J. Amblin at point 3. Said " Waunborfa Road is only some 4m wide in places with high banks and no verges or footways for the protection of pedestrians, it is difficult for large vehicles to pass on the hill. The highway falls steeply from south to north past the appeal site between two sharp bends. The junction with Waunborfa Road and the A4049 suffers from poor visibility, high banks obstructing the view along the main road in both directions, from any point behind the A4049 boundary; about 2m back from the kerb line. This junction is substandard in current highway terms. Opposite the



Waunborfa Road/ A4049 junction is the junction of the A469 leading south eastwards towards Ystrad Mynach. Both the A class roads are well used and I consider the crossroads to be hazardous for traffic using Waunborfa Road". I am not aware of any significant works to the junction of Waunborfa Road and A4049 in the interim. I am aware of a much increased volume of traffic in the area. I have since the UDP identified the developments in and around Blackwood brought to the attention of all the oversight of not providing a link for traffic between Sunnybank Road and the A4049, to no avail.

- *The use of Sunnybank Road as a distributor road, considering speeds, volumes and HGV's*

The hierarchy of roads indicate distributor roads are 7.3 meters minimum width, while neighbourhood roads are 5.5meters min. I am intrigued as to who will sacrifice their garden?

Sunnybank is already traffic calmed to guidance; I would suggest from that point speed enforcement is now a matter for the police.

The likely increase in volume of traffic on Sunnybank is contained in the RTI for the SEW from memory 90%+ Residents living on Sunnybank have qualified for reductions in the banding of their homes as a result of the loss of amenity as a result of the near doubling of traffic on Sunnybank.

HGV's I have found weight limits even where they exist are virtually impossible to have enforced.

- *Complaints of traffic speeding and volume in and around Blackwood*

The implications for volume and congestion was all to clear from the RTIA's contained in the Environmental Impact Assessments of the developments allowed in and around Blackwood. I see no reason this should impact on Waunborfa Road given the evidence provided to a Welsh Assembly Inspector.

Could I please draw your attention to an appeal Welsh Assembly ref no APP K6920/A/00/1040788, Caerphilly ref EN98/92, in the written statement of Caerphilly CBC, Caerphilly claim Waunborfa Road is no more than a rural lane for most of its length between the crossroads and the top of the hill where it reaches the housing estate. In addition I should like to add, while campaigning for calming on Waunborfa Road I reported seven injury accidents in fifteen months, our strategy indicates three in eighteen months provides half the allocation.

- *Consider any proposals from the school travel plan for Blackwood Comp*

I am afraid I don't understand! Is there any likelihood this will lead to whole scale road closures in the area?

There is little I can add to the comments of the Welsh Assembly Inspector Waunborfa Road is a rural lane from the houses down. The junction is substandard in current highway terms, suffering from poor visibility and high banks. The lane is narrow at

some 4 meters, there are no footpaths or provision for pedestrians, large vehicles have difficulty passing and there are sharp bends, the junction with the A 4049, A 469 and Waunborfa is in the opinion of the inspector hazardous for traffic using Waunborfa Road.

All this information was given to Mr Mark Rees-Williams at the Cefn Fforest partnership. His cost assessment to bring Waunborfa Road to an acceptable standard was in the region of £500,000. His solution was to close the road, he told the partnership when Oak Terrace opens Waunborfa will close.

The simple question is does Caerphilly have £500,000 to spend on this lane? In 1987 the additional impact of three Lorries was considered to be detrimental to highway safety.

In April 1999 planning permission was refused for a unit to store bottled gas. In August 1999 planning permission was refused for a building for storage purposes. In January 2000 an appeal was dismissed by the National Assembly against this refusal. The reasons for refusal were any intensification of commercial activity would result in **a consequential increase in traffic movements along Waunborfa Road, to the detriment of highway safety.** Given the developments in Blackwood and the likely change in traffic patterns, post Angel Way. How can we do nothing?

The inspectors opinion on commercial vehicles being stored on Waunborfa Road three in total, begs the question why refuse a service request for a pinch point on Waunborfa to deny HGV's access?

The lower section of Waunborfa Road is constantly wet; water overflows the gullies and flows down Waunborfa Road. On February 4<sup>th</sup> I was told the gullies are working adequately, unfortunately the gullies are only designed to deal with flows on the road and events of between 2 and 10 year intervals. Yet the road remains wet for most of our winters, the net result is this rural lane is prone to ice and the subsequent dangers of driving down an iced lane, this has been going on for many years.

To close let me once again offer the professional opinion of a Welsh Office Planning Inspector regarding Waunborfa Road.

Waunborfa Road is no more than a rural lane for most of its length between the crossroads and the top of the hill where it reaches the housing estate. Any intensification in the use of Waunborfa Road, has lead to unacceptable dangers to other road users"

Waunborfa Road is only some 4m wide in places with high banks and no verges or footways for the protection of pedestrians; it is difficult for large vehicles to pass on the hill. The highway falls steeply from south to north between two sharp bends. The junction with Waunborfa Road and the A4049 suffers from poor visibility, high banks obstructing the view along the main road in both directions, from any point behind the A4049 boundary; about 2m back from the kerb line. **This junction is substandard in current highway terms.** Opposite the Waunborfa Road/ A4049 junction is the junction of the A469 leading south eastwards towards Ystrad Mynach. Both the A class roads are well used and I consider the crossroads to be hazardous for traffic

using Waunborfa Road". I am not aware of any significant works to the junction of Waunborfa Road and A4049 since the inquiry, I am aware of a much increased volume of traffic in the area. I have since the UDP identified the developments in and around Blackwood and brought to the attention of all the oversight of not providing a link for traffic between Sunnybank Road and the A4049, to no avail.

With the opening of Angel Way in the near future I fear yet another shift in traffic flows between Blackwood and Bargoed. For this reason and given the history of accidents I recorded pre the calming on Waunborfa Road. The inspectors opinion at three separate inquiries, being the same in terms of highway safety along Waunborfa Road, the clear sub standard nature of the junction on to the A4049. The lack of pavements, together with the fact there is no space to provide any.

I am of the opinion that Waunborfa Road is dangerous and is best closed. The junction on to the A4049 would appear to be the most applicable place to close the road given the need to access the Sorroco yard.

Yours Truly

Graham Simmonds

Cllr Cefn Fforest

Received by

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Dated

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18 Grange Hill

Bonnie View

Blackwood

Gwent

NP12 3PE

27<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Ref no.GDS/DP/Ethical Code of Conduct

FAO Mr D. Perkins

Dear Sir,

As you are aware Cllr Jenkins has seen fit to report me to the ombudsman, as I made my request for the report on traffic flows in Blackwood on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and the report came to scrutiny some fourteen months later minus any of the information I requested.

It is my intention to make a complaint to the ombudsman that the highway officer concerned broke the Ethical Code of Conduct for Qualifying Officers. In his refusal to be open, impartial and transparent in his report.

It is also my contention Cllr Jenkins by refusing to ensure my questions were answered, and continually insisting "I call for another report" failed in her duty to ensure scrutiny was effective. Certainly there was no openness, transparency, or impartiality in that report.

Cllr Jenkins in her refusal to insist on questions being answered, or even reports being what was requested, in my opinion denigrated the concept of scrutiny.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter as a matter of urgency.

07890733775

Yours truly

Graham Simmonds

18 Grange Hill

Bonnie View

Blackwood

Gwent

NP12 3PE

13<sup>th</sup> May 2009

FAO Mr Clive Campbell

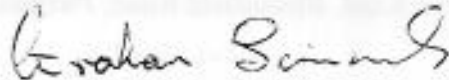
Dear Sir,

Just to underpin our conversation of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009, I require the Road Traffic Impact Assessment figures for the developments contained in Emails from Mr J. Jones received by you on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The original letter sent by myself to Mr J. Jones is dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and is included as an attachment.

The LGA is clear, information of a complicated or technical nature is to be received 72 hours before scrutiny, I and the rest of scrutiny therefore require the information requested by Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

This request has taken over a year to be complied with, any suggestion of misplaced or lost RTIA's I find unacceptable.

Yours truly



Graham Simmonds

Cc Mr S. Rosser

Mr D. Perkins

Mr T. Shaw

Received 13/05/09  
C. Campbell

18 Grange Hill  
Bonnie View  
Blackwood  
Gwent  
NP12 3PE  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2004

FAO Mr Roger Webb,

Dear Sir,

A few weeks ago Mr Byron Thorpe and I handed in a number of requests, for some form of speed control on Pwllglas Road Cefn Fforest. We took this action following a public meeting held by Cllr Noel Turner in the Harlequin bottom of Fairview Hill Mr J. Cooper attended.

The requests were turned down, no surprise there, I was surprised however to discover there is no scheme under consideration in conjunction with the SEW. If we look at, traffic travelling from the West to Blackwood, and to the West from Blackwood. That traffic goes through Cefn Fforest.

Post SEW I suggest that traffic will increase markedly. The Northern link is I suggest, Sunny Bank Road, Twynffald Road, **Bryn Road, Pwllglas Road**, Fairview and onto Pengam Road. The Southern Link will likely be Libanus Road, Highfields Way, (no money for the Oak Terrace By Pass as of 3-2-04 Technical Scrutiny), so **Bryn Road, Pwllglas Road**, Fairview and onto Pengam Road. Traffic from Blackwood will likely be Pentwyn Road, Bloomfield Road, **Pwllglas Road**, Fairview and onto Pengam Road.

I am obviously wrong but I was under the impression that improvements to the Stone House Junction were planned, this would have helped no end. Could I please ask for a considered response how the anticipated increase in traffic might be mitigated, I would be grateful.

Yours Truly

Graham Simmonds



# Welsh Statutory Instrument 2001 No. 2280 (W.170)

## The Code of Conduct (Qualifying Local Government Employees) (Wales) Order 2001

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### STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2001 No. 2280 (W.170)**

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT, WALES**

#### **The Code of Conduct (Qualifying Local Government Employees) (Wales) Order 2001**

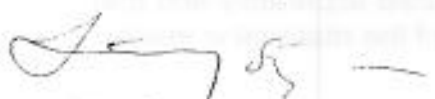
|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Made</i>              | <i>21st June 2001</i> |
| <i>Coming into force</i> | <i>28th July 2001</i> |

The National Assembly for Wales makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by sections 82(2) and 105(1) of the Local Government Act 2000[1].

made in accordance with the LDP unless material considerations indicate otherwise, thereby ensuring that further development in this borough will be carried out in a sustainable manner.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely



Tim Stephens  
Development Control Manager  
[stepht@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:stepht@caerphilly.gov.uk)





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Mr. P. Mears  
Chief Planning Officer

Mr. P. Mears  
Prif Swyddog Cynllunio

Councillor Graham Simmonds  
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Your ref/Eich Cyf

Our ref/Ein Cyf

TS/DC15

Date/Dyddiad

12 August, 2009

Dear Councillor Simmonds,

### **Traffic impact assessments, and sustainability**

I write following our recent conversations about the above matters.

With regard to the traffic impact assessments for the various developments in the Blackwood area, the position is as follows:

- SEW (our ref. P/00/0706) - I have looked through the files, which are now on disc, and there does not appear to be a separate TIA. Traffic information is contained within the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Northern development (ASDA) (P/99/0493) - This is on disc and includes a TIA prepared by White Young Green.
- Southern development (Focus) (P/00/1022) - This is on disc and includes a TIA prepared by Quadrant Consulting).
- Highfields - I am not aware that there was ever a TIA submitted for this development. The development to the north and south of Highfields Way was based on a long-standing commitment dating back to the 70s and 80s, and the planning applications were submitted over decades for portions of the site comprising some 30 to 50 dwellings.

The TIAs that we hold total many hundreds of pages, which would be costly to copy. You are welcome to come and view the information on disc, and if you wish, copies of extracts of the documents can be made.

Sustainability is at the heart of the Local Development Plan (LDP) process. Dave Lucas's letter to you last October, a copy of which is attached, made it clear that the purpose of the SEA/SA process is to influence the content of the emerging development plan to which it is linked - in this case the LDP - to make a more sustainable policy document. Once adopted, development control decisions will be

Director/Cyfarwyddwr:  
Anthony O'Sullivan BSc(Eng), MSc, CEng, FICE, FRAT

Directorate of the Environment  
Cyfadran yr Amgylchedd

Correspondence may be in any language or format • Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR QUALIFYING EMPLOYEES OF RELEVANT AUTHORITIES IN WALES

### ***General Principles***

1. The public is entitled to expect the highest standards of conduct from all qualifying employees[6] of relevant authorities[7]. The role of such employees is to serve their employing authority in providing advice, implementing its policies, and delivering services to the local community. In performing their duties, they must act with integrity, honesty, impartiality and objectivity.

### ***Accountability***

2. Qualifying employees of relevant authorities work for their employing authority and serve the whole of that authority. They are accountable to, and owe a duty to that authority. They must act in accordance with the principles set out in this Code, recognising the duty of all public sector employees to discharge public functions reasonably and according to the law.

### ***Political Neutrality***

3. Qualifying employees of relevant authorities, whether or not politically restricted[8], must follow every lawfully expressed policy of the authority and must not allow their own personal or political opinions to interfere with their work. Where qualifying employees are politically restricted (by reason of the post they hold, the nature of the work they do, or the salary they are paid), they must comply with any statutory restrictions on their political activities.

### ***Relations with members, the public and other employees***

4. Mutual respect between qualifying employees and members is essential to good local government, and working relationships should be kept on a professional basis.

5. Qualifying employees of relevant authorities should deal with the public, members and other employees sympathetically, efficiently, and without bias.

### ***Equality***

6. Qualifying employees of relevant authorities must comply with policies relating to equality issues, as agreed by the authority, in addition to the requirements of the law.

### ***Stewardship***

7. Qualifying employees of relevant authorities must ensure that they use public funds entrusted to them in a responsible and lawful manner, and must not utilise property, vehicles or other facilities of the authority for personal use unless authorised to do so.

### ***Personal Interests***

8. Whilst qualifying employees' private lives are their own concern, they must not allow their private interests to conflict with their public duty. They must not misuse their official position or information

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note does not form part of the Order)*

Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 ("the Act") establishes a new ethical framework for local government in Wales.

Section 82(2) of the Act provides that the National Assembly for Wales may by order issue a code as regards the conduct which is expected of certain employees of relevant authorities in Wales ("the code of conduct").

The relevant authorities are county, community and county borough councils, fire authorities and National Park authorities but not police authorities.

Employees of relevant authorities to which the code of conduct does not apply are those who fall within any description of employee in regulations made by the National Assembly for Wales under section 82(8) of the Act.

By virtue of section 82(7) of the Act, the terms of appointment or conditions of employment of employees of relevant authorities to whom the code of conduct applies are to be deemed to incorporate the code of conduct set out in the Schedule to this Order.

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*Notes:*

[1] 2000 c.22.[back](#)

[2] S.I. 2001/2278 (W.168).[back](#)

[3] 1947 c.41.(d) 1995 c.25.[back](#)

[4] 1995 c.25.[back](#)

[5] 1998 c.38.[back](#)

[6] Employees of relevant authorities in Wales who do not fall within any description of employee specified in the Code of Conduct (Non-Qualifying Local Government Employees) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/ (W. )) are qualifying employees.[back](#)

[7] A relevant authority, in relation to Wales, means a county, county borough or community council, a fire authority constituted by a combination scheme under the Fire Services Act 1947 or a National Park authority established under section 63 of the Environment Act 1995.[back](#)

[8] A qualifying employee who holds a politically restricted post is disqualified from becoming or remaining a member of a relevant authority (see sections 1-3 of the Local Government and Housing Act

## 5.6 Traffic and Pedestrians

- 5.6.1 There will be significant differences in traffic flows on the existing highway network in the design year (2020) with and without Sirhowy Enterprise Way. These are shown in the table below.

### TRAFFIC FLOWS

#### 2018 with and without Sirhowy Enterprise Way

| Location   | 2020 without scheme |       | 2020 with scheme |       | % change |
|--|---------------------|-------|------------------|-------|----------|
|  | NRTF                | UDP   | NRTF             | UDP   |          |
|  | LG                  | HG    | LG               | HG    |          |
| A4048 north of Rock                              | 9500                | 10000 | 9600             | 10100 | + 1%     |
| A4048 Rock to Sunnybank Road                     | 11600               | 12200 | 11000            | 11500 | - 6%     |
| A4048 Sunnybank Road to Pentwyn Road             | 8100                | 8800  | 3200             | 4000  | - 54%    |
| A4048 Pentwyn Road to Cefn Road                  | 15700               | 20400 | 8600             | 11300 | - 45%    |
| A4048 Cefn Road to Woodbine Road                 | 16800               | 21500 | 9800             | 12500 | - 42%    |
| A4048 Woodbine Road to Gordon Road               | 18700               | 23000 | 12700            | 14500 | - 37%    |
| A4048 Gordon Road to Libanus Road                | 24100               | 28300 | 17200            | 20600 | - 27%    |
| A4048 south of Libanus Road                      | 29900               | 34500 | 18800            | 21400 | - 38%    |
| A4048 Commercial Street                          | 22100               | 24700 | 8600             | 9000  | - 64%    |
| B4251 Kendon Hill                                | 9200                | 11100 | 9000             | 9900  | - 11%    |
| B4251 Oakdale to Woodfieldside                   | 14100               | 14800 | 11100            | 12400 | - 16%    |
| B4251 Woodfield Terrace, Woodfieldside           | 11400               | 12400 | 1600             | 1600  | - 87%    |
| B4251 Penmaen Road                               | 12900               | 14100 | 10500            | 11100 | - 21%    |
| B4251 Newbridge Road (west of industrial estate) | 13600               | 16800 | 2900             | 5100  | - 70%    |
| B4251 Newbridge Road (east of industrial estate) | 14800               | 19300 | 6400             | 12000 | - 38%    |
| B4251 between roundabout and A472                | 10200               | 12900 | 16700            | 19700 | + 53%    |
| Parkway, Penylan Industrial Estate               | 12500               | 13400 | 9700             | 10800 | - 19%    |
| Rhiw Syr Dafydd Hill                             | 3500                | 4100  | -                | -     | -        |
| Park Terrace                                     | 4700                | 7300  | 3200             | 5700  | - 22%    |
| Sunnybank Road                                   | 6000                | 6000  | 11200            | 11500 | + 92%    |
| Gordon Road                                      | 13000               | 14300 | 11200            | 12100 | - 15%    |
| Libanus Road                                     | 8800                | 9600  | 7600             | 9000  | - 6%     |
| Newbridge Road (east of roundabout)              | 9500                | 10900 | 9300             | 10400 | - 5%     |
| Business Park Link                               | -                   | -     | 10100            | 10800 | -        |
| Northern Cross Valley Link                       | -                   | -     | 15200            | 16000 | -        |
| Business Park Link to Woodfieldside              | -                   | -     | 16000            | 16400 | -        |
| Woodfieldside Bypass                             | -                   | -     | 20400            | 23800 | -        |
| Penmaen Road Roundabout to Newbridge Road        | -                   | -     | 17900            | 21000 | -        |
| Southern Cross Valley Link                       | -                   | -     | 15600            | 18400 | -        |

- 5.6.2 As with in the baseline conditions the above flows are Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT). The flows, together with those in 1999, the baseline year are shown on the Traffic Flow Diagram, drawing Number 72007-ES4.

- 5.6.3 From the above table it can be seen that most existing roads will benefit from the construction of Sirhowy Enterprise Way when flows in 2020 with and without the scheme are compared. In particular the A4048 through Blackwood will experience traffic reductions of between 6% and 54% with the latter between Sunnybank Road