

Hannah Blythyn MS

Chair, Standards of Conduct Committee

29 January 2026

Dear Hannah,

### Registration and Declaration of Interests

The Business Committee has been considering the recommendations made to it by the Standards of Conduct Committee in its report on its Inquiry into Registration and Declaration of Interests: Declaration of Interests.

At its meeting on 29 January, the Business Committee considered recommendation 1 (relating to removing the prohibition on voting in Standing Order 2.9 where a Member has declared a registrable interest under Standing Orders 2.6 and 2.7) and recommendation 2 (making it a Standing Order requirement that a relevant interests must be declared at the point of tabling business).

The Business Committee accepted the first recommendation relating to the removal of the prohibition on voting.

In relation to the second recommendation, we have considered the implications of requiring that Members should declare interests at the point of tabling for Business Managers tabling on behalf of their groups and Ministers tabling on behalf of the government.

The Committee noted and welcomed the Standards of Conduct Committee's intention to also propose amendments to the Guidance on the Registration and Declaration of Interests, including the addition of a test of relevance that would outline factors that may influence whether it might be reasonable for others to think that an interest influenced a Member's contribution.

Before taking a final decision on recommendation 2, we would like to ask the Standards of Conduct Committee to include a similar test of relevance in relation to declaring interests at the point of tabling, providing some guidance regarding the expectations on Members tabling business on behalf of others (e.g. the government, Senedd Commission, a committee or a political group). In particular, we consider that it would be appropriate to indicate that it is less likely that a Member tabling

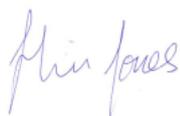
business on behalf of others in this way would need to declare a relevant interest at the point of tabling.

We would be grateful if you could consider this proposal as part of your work on the Guidance.

It is our current intention for the Standing Order change reports relating to both the registration and the declaration of interests to be considered by the Senedd in the first half of March, to allow sufficient time for any resulting changes to Guidance to be considered by the Senedd before the end of the Sixth Senedd.

Please may I take this opportunity to thank the Standards of Conduct Committee for your continuing work on these matters.

Yours sincerely,



**The Rt Hon Elin Jones MS**

Chair of the Business Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.