

Mick Antoniw AM
Chair
Standards of Conduct Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

22 May 2013

Dear Mick

Thank you for your letter enclosing a copy of the Standards Committee's report on Sanctions published on 15 May 2013. The Business Committee considered the recommendation made by the Standards of Conduct Committee in its report at its meeting this week.

Business Managers gave their agreement in principle to review the Standing Orders in line with the Committee's recommendation.

Before we consider firm proposals to amend Standing Orders however, I would be grateful if you would clarify whether the Standards Committee wants the sanction of exclusion to be extended only to breaches of the Code of Conduct, or to all matters under Standing Order 22.2(i).

Business Managers indicated that their preferred approach would be to give the Standards Committee the power to recommend the sanction of in relation to all the matters listed in SO 22.2(i), rather than in relation to breaches of the Code of Conduct only. This would give the Committee maximum discretion when recommending sanctions. It would also set out clearly in Standing Orders to what breaches sanctions may apply, rather than by reference to the Code of Conduct.

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg/We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh

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Llywydd
Presiding Officer



I look forward to hearing from you.

Rosemary

**Rosemary Butler AM, Presiding Officer
Chair, Business Committee**