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National
Assembly for
Wales

MEDIA RELEASE

Creating the right culture: Ensuring the National Assembly is an exemplary place to work

As part of a commitment signed by the Llywydd of the Assembly, political party leaders and the Standards of Conduct Committee, an inquiry is underway to ensure that the Assembly is an inclusive, positive and open working environment.

The National Assembly's Standards of Conduct Committee will look at arrangements currently in place including both the Assembly Member and staff codes of conduct, and the procedures for reporting any breaches.

The inquiry's findings will help form a new respect and dignity policy for the National Assembly.

Jayne Bryant AM, Chair of the Standards of Conduct Committee said:

“Inappropriate behaviour has no place in our institution. We want to ensure everybody feels able to raise concerns about the conduct of anyone connected with the National Assembly for Wales.”

“Although there are clear rules and procedures regarding behaviour set out both in the Assembly Member and staff codes of conduct, it has become apparent that people don't know about, or simply are not confident enough to use them. It is crucial that everyone is aware of the role of the independent Standards Commissioner.

“As a parliament, we are committed to having an inclusive organisational culture, which empowers people to interact with the democratic process, and is an exemplary place to work and which welcomes thousands of visitors to its estate.

A public consultation is open until 31 January 2018. Anyone wishing to contribute should visit the [Standards of Conduct Committee web pages](#) for more information.

A commitment by the Committee to also review the sanctions available to ensure that any incidents of inappropriate behaviour are dealt with appropriately, will be covered by a separate inquiry.

To help people right now, if anyone wants to discuss the available routes to report any behaviour that has caused concern, we encourage them to contact the National Assembly for Wales via our [confidential telephone line](#) on 0800 020 9550.

Alternatively, people can email for advice on the reporting routes through DignityandRespect@assembly.wales.

Notes to editors

For more information, interviews, photo or filming requests, please contact National Assembly media relations on 0300 200 7487, or email news@assembly.wales.

English

