#### **SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

#### MEMBER SELF-REGULATORY PROTOCOL

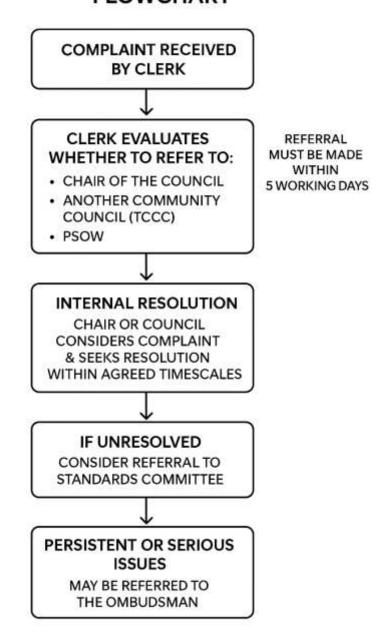
### 1. Purpose and Scope

- This protocol promotes high standards of conduct and behaviour among members, fostering respect and trust.
- It complements, rather than replaces, the Members' Code of Conduct. It applies to:
- Low-level complaints between members of Town, City, or Community Councils.
- Not applicable to complaints from the public, which should be referred to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW).
- The protocol encourages internal resolution before external referral, in line with obligations under the Code of Conduct.

## 2. General Principles

- Members will attempt to resolve disputes internally through agreed processes.
- External referral to the PSOW or Standards Committee is a last resort.
- Members will avoid personal attacks or confrontations in public forums, including full Council meetings, media, or social media.
- Commitments under this protocol will not limit legitimate political debate or scrutiny.
- Political Group Leaders are responsible for ensuring compliance, individually and collectively.
- Members are encouraged to undertake training and development to support adherence to this protocol.
- Assistance may be sought from other councils where appropriate, at the discretion of both the referring and receiving councils.
- If the process involves the Standards Committee, the Chair (or Vice-Chair) may initially nominate a single Standards Committee member to attend.

# MEMBER / MEMBER COMPLAINT FLOWCHART



This policy was approved by Council at its meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and reviewed at its meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

Ashley Griffiths – 20 October 2025