

PART 5 – CODES AND PROTOCOLS

PROTOCOL ON MEMBERS RIGHTS OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS

APPENDIX

SUMMARY OF STATUTORY PROVISIONS ON ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS

1. There is a right to inspect the accounts of the Council and of any of its Proper Officers under Section 228 of the Local Government Act 1972
2. Section 100F of the Local Government 1972 Act and The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 provide rights of access to documents for members of the Council. These rights are reflected in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Council's constitution. There is a general right of access to documents forming part of the formal business of the Council, including minutes, agendas, reports and background papers, subject to certain restrictions for exempt and confidential information.
3. The Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Decisions Documents and Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2001 provides similar rights in relation to documents forming part of the formal business of the Cabinet, and Part III of the same regulations gives an extended right to members of overview and scrutiny committees relating to documents relevant to the work of the committee
4. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations give general rights of access to all recorded information held by the Council subject to certain exemptions and exceptions
5. Guidance on the extent of these rights is available in a separate guidance document.