

**Date: 19/11/2020**

**APPEAL BY MR PETER ROBERTS, MR. JOHN BURREE AND MISS CLAIRE WALLER  
("THE APPELLANTS")**

**AGAINST**

**THE WELSH APPEALS PANEL**

**("THE RESPONDENT")**

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**RULING**

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1. The Appeal is made to the Federal Appeals Panel (FAP) by Mr Roberts, Mr Burree and Miss Waller (the current Appellants) against a ruling made by the Chair of the Welsh Appeals Panel (Baron German of Llanfrechfa) hereinafter referred to as (CWAP) in respect to an appeal made to him by Ms Amie Jordon (the original Appellant). That appeal required CWAP to make an interpretation of the Constitution, which he did. It seems that as a result of publication of that ruling, the current Appellants felt aggrieved and seek to appeal that ruling to the FAP.
2. Under the provisions of the Welsh Liberal Democrats Constitution, CWAP clearly had power to hear and determine that appeal, see Section L Paragraph 5 (a) and 6 (a). Further Section L paragraph 8 makes it clear that any decision made by CWAP shall subject to any right of appeal to the FAP be final and binding on all concerned. The effect of that was that once CWAP had made a ruling on the interpretation of the constitution the ruling was binding on all members of the Welsh Party including the current Appellants, even though they were not parties to the original appeal.
3. The current appellants now seek to appeal that ruling to FAP.

Jurisdiction

4. Under the current published procedure of the FAP adopted by conference on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020, it is for me as case manager to determine whether the FAP has jurisdiction to hear this appeal. Paragraph 3.5 (a) of those procedures states that the case manager shall

determine:

*“Whether or not the case falls within the jurisdiction of the Panel (and the Officers shall have power to determine that a case falls out with such jurisdiction because it is deemed to be untimely, insubstantial, unmeritorious, and vexatious or where the complainant has not exhausted his remedies elsewhere)”*

5. Inquiries were made of the current Appellants and CWAP as who were the original appellants before him to determine whether there was a right of appeal. There was some initial confusion in the answers received, but I am now satisfied that I have the correct facts as to who originally appealed and who now appeals, which I have set out above.

#### Conclusion

6. I find that there is no right of appeal in this matter by the current Appellants to FAP. The Federal Appeals Panel operates on the basis of an appellant jurisdiction. As the Federal Appeals Panel has pointed out before, the only person who has a right of appeal to the FAP is the original appellant. No such appeal was made and the time period for making such an appeal has long since expired, see **3.1 of our published procedures**.
7. The current appellants were not involved in the original case, and cannot subsequently jump on the bandwagon and seek to appeal a decision they were not parties to and were not involved in; that is simply not the way the system works or was intended to work.

#### Formal Ruling

8. **I decline jurisdiction to deal with this appeal for the reasons stated above, this decision is final and ends the Appeal Process before the FAP.**