

**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS
AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS
OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON**

**ADOPTED PURSUANT TO A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL
AT A MEETING ON 5 JULY 2012**

Part 1

General Provisions

Introduction and interpretation

1. (1) This Code applies to you as a Member or co-opted member of the London Borough of Hillingdon ["the authority"]
- (2) Co-opted member means a person who is not a Member of the authority but who:-
 - a) is a member of any committee or sub-committee of the authority; or
 - b) is a member of, and represents the authority, on any joint committee or joint sub-committee of the authority, and who is entitled to vote on any question that falls to be decided at any meeting of that committee or sub-committee.
- (3) It is your responsibility to comply with the provisions of this Code.

Scope

2. (1) You must comply with this Code whenever you act in your official capacity as a Member or co-opted member.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, this Code does not apply to you in any other circumstances including your personal life.

The Nolan principles

3. This Code is consistent with the following seven principles of standards in public life:
 - selflessness;
 - integrity;
 - objectivity;
 - accountability;
 - openness;
 - honesty;
 - leadership.

General obligations

4. (1) You must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person. Conferring an advantage includes gaining financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend or close associate.
- (2) You must not place yourself under a financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence you in the performance of your official duties.
- (3) When carrying out your public duties you must make all choices, such as making public appointments, awarding contracts or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits, on merit.
- (4) You are accountable for your decisions to the public and you must co-operate fully with whatever scrutiny is appropriate to your office.
- (5) You must be as open as possible about your decisions and actions and the decisions and actions of your authority and should be prepared to give reasons for those decisions and actions.
- (6) You must declare any private interests, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary, that relate to your public duties and must take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest, including registering and declaring interests in a manner conforming with the procedures set out in Part 2 below.
- (7) You must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of your authority, ensure that such resources are not used improperly for party political purposes (especially in the period between the publication of a Notice of Election and the election date, known as the 'purdah' period). However, this paragraph will not apply in circumstances where Members pay for the use of the resources at a rate agreed by the authority. You must have regard to any applicable Local authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986.
- (8) You must promote and support high standards of conduct when serving in your public post, in particular as characterised by the above requirements, by leadership and example.

Part 2

Registering and declaring pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

5. (1) In accordance with Section 30 of the Localism Act 2011, you must, within 28 days of taking office as a Member or co-opted member, notify your authority's Monitoring Officer of any disclosable pecuniary interest as defined by the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, where the pecuniary interest is yours, your spouse's or civil partner's, or is the pecuniary interest of somebody with whom you are living with as a husband or wife, or as if you were civil partners.

The pecuniary interests which are specified in the above regulations are as follows:

Subject:	Prescribed Description:
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a Member, or co-opted member in carrying out their duties as a Member or co-opted member, or towards the election expenses of a Member or co-opted member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's or co-opted member's knowledge)—

Securities

- (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and
- (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—
(a) that body (to the Member's or co-opted member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and

- (b) either—
 - (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

- (2) In addition, you must, within 28 days of taking office as a Member or co-opted member, notify your authority's Monitoring Officer of any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest which the authority has decided should be included in the register.
- (3) If an interest has not been entered onto the authority's register, then the Member or co-opted member must disclose the interest to any meeting of the authority at which they are present, where they have a disclosable interest in any matter being considered and where the matter is not a 'sensitive interest'. A 'Sensitive Interest' is one where disclosure of the details of the interest could lead to the Member or co-opted member, or a person connected with the Member or co-opted member, being subject to violence or intimidation.
- (4) Following any disclosure of an interest not on the authority's register or the subject of pending notification, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days beginning with the date of disclosure.
- (5) Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest as defined by the above Regulations. Additionally, you must observe the restrictions your authority places on your involvement in matters where you have a pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest as defined by your authority.