

## **Police and Crime Commissioner CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **I. Introduction**

This Code applies to me in the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner when acting or representing to act in that role. This code also applies to my Deputy PCC, when acting or representing to act in that role.

This code does not apply when I am acting in a purely private capacity.

I have adopted this code and have agreed to abide by its provisions.

The Policing Protocol<sup>1</sup> provides that all parties will abide by the seven principles set out in the Standards in Public Life: First Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life known as the Nolan Principles (below).

#### **Selflessness**

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

#### **Integrity**

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

#### **Objectivity**

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

#### **Accountability**

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

#### **Openness**

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for doing so.

#### **Honesty**

Holders of public office should be truthful.

<sup>1</sup>The Policing Protocol Order 2011 No. 2744

### **Leadership**

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

## **2. General Obligations**

I agree:-

- a. To treat others with dignity and respect
- b. Not to use bullying behaviour or harass any person c. Not to conduct myself in a manner which:
  - i. Is contrary to the policing protocol and/ or
  - ii. Could reasonably be regarded as bringing my office into disrepute

## **3. Use of Resources**

I agree:-

- a. Not to use the resources of the elected local policing body for my personal benefit or for the benefit of myself, my friends, or any other person in relation to any business interest of mine.
- b. Not to use the resources of the elected local policing body improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes).
- c. To claim expenses and allowances only in accordance with the published expenses and allowances scheme of the elected local policing body.

## **4. Register of Disclosable Interest (including those arising in relation to gifts and hospitality and those of a pecuniary nature)**

I agree:-

- a. To act solely in the public interest and in exercising the functions of my office not act to gain financial or other benefits for myself, my family, my friends, or any person in relation to any business of mine or use or attempt to use my office to confer or secure for any person, including myself, an advantage or a disadvantage.
- b. Within 28 days of taking office to enter in the register of disclosable interests maintained by the monitoring officer of the elected local policing body every disclosable interest as

set out in the Schedule.

- c. Within 28 days of any change in circumstances to enter in the register of interests the changes in so far as are related to disclosable interests.
- d. If the nature of the interest is such that I and the Monitoring Officer consider that disclosure could lead to me or a person connected with me being subject to violence or intimidation, then any entry in the register should not include details of the interest but should indicate that the interest has been disclosed and is withheld by virtue of this section.

5. **Conflicts of Interests**

In any case where the interests of exercising the functions of my office may conflict with any disclosable or other interest, which has become known to me, I shall as soon as possible declare such conflict as is required in accordance with the policing issued under Para 3 of the Election Local Policing Body (Specified Information) Order 2011 and determine whether the conflict of interest is so substantial that the function should not be exercised personally but should be delegated or dealt with in some other manner to ensure the conflict of interest does not arise.

6. **Disclosure of Information**

- a. agree not to disclose information given to me in confidence or information acquired by me which is of a confidential nature, unless I have the consent of a person authorised to give it or I am required by law to do so or for the lawful purposes of my office provided that I shall not be prevented from disclosure to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional legal advice where the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person.
- b. Any disclosure made by me shall be reasonable, be in the public interest and made in good
- c. I agree not to prevent another person from gaining access to information to which that person is entitled by law.}

7. **Transparency**

The register of interests and gifts and hospitality shall be published on the elected policing body's website.

8. **Complaints**

Any complaint about the conduct of the Police and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police and

Crime Commissioner shall be referred to the Police and Crime Panel for Surrey in accordance with the agreed protocol.

Police and Crime Commissioner

Signed:

*Lisa Townsend*

Name: Lisa Townsend

Date: 01/07/2021

Witness

Signed:

*AB*

Name: Alison Bolton

Date: 1.7.2021