**Ethics and Standards**

As you now hold public office you are expected to maintain high standards of propriety, ethics and conduct.

Members of Wandsworth Council have a long record of maintaining high standards of conduct. The Wandsworth Members’ [Code of Conduct](#) governs your behaviour and actions when carrying out their roles and duties. The Code forms part of the Council’s Standards Framework established in July 2012 in response to changes introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The Code incorporates the Nolan Committees principles for those working in the public sector of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, honesty, openness and leadership.

The Council has a Standards Committee responsible for the promotion and maintenance of high standards of conduct among Members; it is scheduled to meet twice a year. Standards Committee meetings are observed by two Independent Persons, who also fulfil the statutory role in respect of allegations of code breaches.

When you sign your acceptance of office at the Members’ Welcome Evening you will also be confirming that you will adhere to the Code. Therefore, you should familiarise yourself quickly with its expectations.

The Code also requires that you register personal interests. It is your responsibility to adhere to the requirements for registering your interests in compliance with the Code. Certain categories of interests – known as Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) are dictated in law and failure to disclose a DPI which relates to a decision that you might be taking as a member is a criminal offence.

The Code sets out more details on what is expected, and further guidance will be provided the Standards and Decision-Making training session in May.

The Monitoring Officer in Wandsworth is Jon Evans (Assistant Chief Executive) and the Deputy MO is Peter Sass (Head of Governance). Both can provide advice to any Member on matters relating to the Code and the registerable interests.

The Council also has a protocol on officer and Member relations which supplements the main Code of conduct. There is also an Officer Code of Conduct which can be accessed in the Council Constitution.