



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Item 15 – Town Council 27th April
2021

TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

REPORT AUTHOR	Colin Hill Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
TEL NO	07923257879
EMAIL	townclerk@todmorden-tc.gov.
Date	27th April 2021
SUBJECT	Councillors Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To advise Members that at the direction of the Government, the Local Government Association (LGA) (a membership organisation for principal authorities), has designed a new Code of Conduct and that the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has been in liaison with the LGA during the process, and at its Board (NALC Assembly) meeting, it was resolved that NALC approves the Code and recommends it to all its member councils.
2. To advise Members that NALC is now recommending adoption of the LGA Code and its previously recommended Code, devised in 2012, will be withdrawn. The new Code, as with the former, complies with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. See Appendix 1
3. To remind Members that all parish sector councils must adopt a Code of Conduct. Under Section 5 of the 2011 Act, a council may revise an existing Code or adopt a replacement Code.
4. To remind Members that such a Code must be consistent with the Seven Principles of Public Life, known as the Nolan Principles. These are: Selflessness; Integrity; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Honesty and Leadership. This Code of Conduct will apply to a councillor when he/she is acting in the capacity as a councillor where they are expected to uphold high standards of conduct and show leadership at all times.
5. To inform Members that the Code now defines the forms of communication and interaction that it will apply to, including:
 - at face-to-face meetings
 - at online or telephone meetings
 - in written communication
 - in verbal communication
 - in non-verbal communication
 - in electronic and social media communication, posts, statements and comments.

6. To inform Members that the new Code, similar to the previous Code recommended by NALC, sets out the actions that a councillor must take if they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, Other Registerable Interests and Non- Registrable Interests.
7. To advise Members that it is expected that Training for Members will be provided by NALC and when available Members will be asked to attend.
8. To advise Members that a ring binder containing copies of this Code of Conduct, together with recently adopted Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Scheme of Committee and Officer Delegations, will be provided to all Councillors as our suite of core constitutional document.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. None directly arising from this report.
10. Councillors are reminded of the need to declare Disclosable Pecuniary Interests when attending Council meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

11. That Members adopt the New Code of Conduct

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

12. Council authority is required to adopt this Code of Conduct for Councillors

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

13. None arising from this report.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

14. None from this report.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

15. None arising from this report.

IMPACT EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

16. None arising from this report.

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

17. Appendix 1 - Councillors Code of Conduct

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Colin Hill