

THE DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT
(adopted under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011)

You are a member or co-opted member of Darenth Parish Council and hence you shall have regard to the following principles – selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. The principles were first established by the Nolan Committee and are detailed in the guidelines for members.

Accordingly, when acting in your capacity as a member or co-opted member of Darenth Parish Council -

You must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend or close associate.

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. You should have regard to the guidance in the Council’s Protocol on Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality.

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. You will find guidance in the Council’s Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy.

You are accountable for your decisions to the public and you must co-operate fully with whatever scrutiny is appropriate to your office.

You must be as open as possible about your decisions and actions and the decisions and actions of the Council and should be prepared to give reasons for those decisions and actions. You should have regard to the guidance in the Council’s Protocol on the release of confidential information.

Failure to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may be a criminal offence and you should also declare any Prejudicial Interest that relates to your public duties and must take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest. You should register and declare your interests in a manner conforming with the procedures set out by the Council, including Standing Order 19.

You must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of the Council, ensure that such resources are not used improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes) and you must have regard to any applicable Local Authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986 and guidance on the Use of Resources by Councillors within the Council’s Protocol.

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. You should have regard to the Council’s guidance in Protocols on the conduct between officers and members and the conduct when serving on outside bodies.