

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Purpose of Report

Following the draft Code of Conduct that was presented to the Board on 5 November 2015, this report provides detail of the template Code of Conduct that has been produced by the Scottish Government which is to be adopted by all IJBs.

2. Recommendations

Board Members are asked to:-

2.1 approve the draft Code of Conduct as detailed in the **Appendix** for submission to Scottish Ministers for approval; and

2.2 agree that once approved by Scottish Ministers, the Board adopts and complies with the requirements of the Code of Conduct including publication of both the Code and Register of Members' Interests on the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board's website.

3. Considerations

Code of Conduct

3.1 On 1 April 2016 the Scottish Government wrote to all Chairs and Chief Officers with regard to the Code of Conduct, providing a template Code that could be adopted by all IJBs.

3.2 This followed work between the Scottish Government, the Commissioner for Ethical Standards and the Standards Commission to prepare a template code. As "devolved public bodies" for the purposes of the Ethical Standards in Public Life (Scotland) Act 2000, means that each IJB must produce a Code of Conduct setting out how its members should conduct themselves in undertaking their duties. This should be based on the Model Code of Conduct for Members of Devolved Public Bodies, applying to Members and business of the IJB.

3.3 A draft Code of Conduct based on the Model Code was presented to the Board at its first meeting on 5 November 2015. However, as advised in the Conflicts of Interest report to the board in January, work was underway nationally for a standard template to be produced for adoption by all IJBs. Therefore this draft code was considered as an interim measure pending release of the further guidance.

3.4 The template Code provided with the letter of 1 April 2016, has been completed to reflect references to the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board where required and is attached as an **Appendix**. No further amendment has been made.

3.5 The Scottish Government expects each IJB to implement the Code of Conduct based on this template in full. If however, in exceptional circumstances, the Board feel that it is necessary to make an amendment to the Code, then reasons for any changes must be provided when the Code is submitted for approval. The request would then be considered by the Scottish Ministers for approval.

3.6 Once the Code is approved by Scottish Ministers, the Board should adopt and comply with the requirements of the Code of Conduct. This includes publication of both the Code and Register of Members' Interests on the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board's website.

3.7 Section 3.8 of the Code refers to seeking advice from relevant professionals when required. As outlined in a report to the Board on 17 March 2016 it is a requirement for the IJB to have a Standards Officer. The need for the IJB to identify an individual to support this role is further discussed in the governance update to the IJB.

4. Governance Assurance

4.1 The Council's Proper Officer (Director Corporate Services) and Monitoring Officer (Head of Legal and Democratic Services) have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

4.2 The Health and Social Care Management Team have been consulted and are in agreement with this report

5. Impact Assessment

As this report does not propose a change in policy/strategy/plan/project, it is not necessary to complete an Impact Assessment.

Author(s)

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Approved by

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Appendices – 1 - Draft Code of Conduct

Background Papers

Minute - Integration Joint Board – 5 November 2015 – Item 5 – Governance Arrangements

<http://egenda.dumgal.gov.uk/aksdumgal/users/public/admin/kab12.pl?cmte=IJB&meet=1&arc=71>

Minute – Integration Joint Board – 17 March 2016 – Item 13 – Governance Arrangements

<http://egenda.dumgal.gov.uk/aksdumgal/users/public/admin/kab12.pl?cmte=IJB&meet=3&arc=71>