

## Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life

### Standards matter

A review of best practice in promoting good behaviour in public life

Principle	Revised description
Selflessness	Members should act solely in terms of the public interest.
Integrity	Members 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	Members must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
Accountability	Members are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.
Openness	Members 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 so doing.
Honesty	Members should be truthful.
Leadership	Members 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.