



**North Wales
Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner**

Code of Conduct

**Police and Crime Commissioner
Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner**

Polisiâu a Gweithdrefnau / Policies and Procedures

Summary

To set out the standards of behaviour expected of the Police and Crime Commissioner of North Wales.

This procedure has been adopted by the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales.

Date Ratified: 13 May 2021

Review Date: 13 May 2025

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This code applies to me in the office of Police and Crime Commissioner when acting or representing to act in that role. It also applies to my deputy when acting or representing to act in that role.
- 1.2 This code does not apply when I am acting in a purely private capacity.
- 1.3 I have adopted this code and have agreed to abide by its provisions.
- 1.4 The Policing Protocol 2011 provides that all parties will abide by the seven principles set out in Standards in Public Life: First Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life known as — the Nolan Principles.
- 1.5 I agree to abide by the “Nolan Principles which are set out below:

THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE

SELFLESSNESS

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

INTEGRITY

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

OBJECTIVITY

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

OPENNESS

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

HONESTY

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

LEADERSHIP

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

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2. Oath of Office

2.1 I have also sworn the following oath:

“I, Andrew Christopher Dunbobbin do hereby declare that I accept the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales.

In making this declaration, I solemnly and sincerely promise that during my term of office:

I will serve all the people of North Wales in the office of Police and Crime Commissioner.

I will act with integrity and diligence in my role and, to the best of my ability, will execute the duties of my office to ensure that the police are able to cut crime and protect the public.

I will give a voice to the public, especially victims of crime, and work with other services to ensure the safety of the community and effective criminal justice.

I will take all steps within my power to ensure transparency of my decisions, so that I may be properly held to account by the public.

I will not interfere with the operational independence of police officers.”

3. General Obligations

3.1 I agree:

- a) To treat others with dignity and respect.
- b) Not to use bullying behaviour or harass any person.
- c) Not to conduct myself in a manner which:
 - i. is contrary to the policing protocol or any other legal requirement relevant to my role
 - ii. could reasonably be regarded as bringing my office into disrepute.

d) To respect the impartiality of officers and not to obstruct or interfere with any officer who may be discharging any responsibilities placed upon them by law.

4. Use of resources

4.1 I agree:

a) Not to use the resources of the elected local policing body for my personal benefit or for the benefit of myself, my friends, or any other person in relation to any business interest of mine.

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b) Not to use the resources of the Commissioner improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes).

c) To claim expenses and allowances only in accordance with the published expenses and allowances scheme of the Commissioner.

5. Register of Disclosable Interests

(including those of a pecuniary nature)

5.1 I agree:

a) To act solely in the public interest and in exercising the functions of my office not act to gain financial or other benefits for myself, my family, my friends, or any person in relation to any business of mine or use or attempt to use my office to confer or secure for any person, including myself, an advantage or a disadvantage.

b) Within 28 days of taking office to enter in the register of disclosable interests maintained by the monitoring officer of the elected local policing body every disclosable interest as set out in Schedule A.

c) Within 28 days of any change in circumstances to enter in the register of interests the changes in so far as are related to disclosable interests.

d) Within 28 days of receipt, to register the acceptance of all gifts or hospitality. (Further information on registering gifts and hospitality is attached at Schedule B)

e) If the nature of the interest is such that I and the Monitoring Officer consider that disclosure could lead to me or a person connected with me being subject to violence or intimidation, then any entry in the register should not include details of the interest but should indicate that the interest has been disclosed and is withheld by virtue of this section.

f) If there is any doubt about whether something could be considered a registerable interest the Monitoring Officer will be consulted.

6. Conflicts of interests

6.1 In any case where the interests of exercising the functions of my office may conflict with any disclosable or other interest, which has become known to me, I shall as soon as possible declare such conflict as is required in accordance with the policy issued under Para 3 of the Elected Local Policing Body (Specified Information) Order 2011 and determine whether the conflict of interest is so substantial that the function should not be exercised personally

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- 6.2 I will consider a conflict of interest to be so substantial that I should not exercise the function personally, if it meets the following condition:
- a) A member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably consider the interest so significant that it would be likely to prejudice my judgement on the decision.
- 6.3 In the event of declaring a conflict of interest, I will withdraw from any discussion or decision regarding the item and delegate the matter to the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. If there is a question about whether the matter may be delegated, I will seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer. Should the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner also declare a conflict of interest in the same matter they must also withdraw and the matter may be delegated to either the Chief Finance Officer or the Chief Executive (Monitoring Officer).
- 6.4 In the event that the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner has a conflict of interest in a decision which falls within their delegated functions, the matter should be referred up to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

7. Disclosure of information

- 7.1 I agree not to disclose information given to me in confidence or information acquired by me which is of a confidential nature, unless I have the consent of a person authorised to give it or I am required by law to do so or for the lawful purposes of my office provided that I shall not be prevented from disclosure to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional legal advice where the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person;
- 7.2 Any disclosure made by me shall be reasonable, be in the public interest and made in good faith.
- 7.3 I agree not to prevent another person from gaining access to information to which that person is entitled by law.

8. Transparency

- 8.1 The register of interests and gifts and hospitality shall be published on the elected policing body's website.

9. Complaints

- 9.1 Any complaint about the conduct of the Police and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner shall be referred to the Police and Crime Panel for North Wales.

North Wales Police and Crime Panel
Democratic Services

Polisiâu a Gweithdrefnau / Policies and Procedures

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Conwy
LL32 8DU

Phone: 01492 576061

E-mail: policepanel@conwy.gov.uk

Web: <http://www.nwpcp.org.uk>

10. Monitoring

- 10.1 This Policy will be reviewed by the Chief Executive in May 2025, or following changes in legislation.

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SCHEDULE A: Disclosable Interests (including those relating to Gifts and Hospitality)

In this Schedule:

“body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest” means a firm in which the relevant person is a partner or a body corporate of which the relevant person is a director, or in the securities of which the relevant person has a beneficial interest;

“director” includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society;

“land” includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the relevant person (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income;

“elected local policing body” means the elected Local Policing Body to which the relevant person has been elected.

“relevant period” means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which the relevant person makes an entry, amendment, or deletion to the register of disclosable interests.

“relevant person” means the person(s) who is/are elected/appointed Police and Crime Commissioner and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

“securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000(b) and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Subject

Disclosable Interest

Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation.	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
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Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the elected local policing body) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred in carrying out duties and responsibilities, as of a Police or Deputy
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Police and Crime Commissioner, or towards the election expenses of the PCC or Deputy PCC. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992(a).

Contracts

Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the elected local policing body –

(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and

(b) which has not been fully discharged.

Land

Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the elected local policing body.

Licences

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the elected local policing body.

Corporate tenancies

Any tenancy where (to the knowledge of the relevant person)

(a) the landlord is the elected local policing body; and

(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.

Securities

Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where –

(a) that body (to the relevant person' knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the elected

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local policing body; and

(b) either –

(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or

(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Gifts & Hospitality

The interests of any person from whom the relevant person has received a gift or hospitality.

Wales Audit Office has also asked that “Related Parties” are disclosed:-

Related Parties

Details of close members of your family that are employed by NWP or OPCC, employed by one of NWP or OPCC’s key stakeholders, contractors or suppliers. A close member of your family is defined as that person’s children and spouse or domestic partner, children of that person’s spouse or domestic partner, and dependants of that person or that person’s spouse or domestic partner

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SCHEDULE B: Registering gifts & hospitality

- 10.2 As a general rule offers of gifts or hospitality should be refused courteously in a manner that does not cause offence or embarrassment to the organisation or individual making the offer.
- 10.3 If consideration is being given to accepting a gift or hospitality, the Monitoring Officer, should be consulted prior to a decision being taken.
- 10.4 In deciding whether a gift should be accepted the following points should be considered:
 - Why is the offer being made?
 - What are the background circumstances to it?
 - Does the donor feel obliged to make the offer?
 - What does the donor expect in return?
 - What could be the outcome if the offer is accepted or declined?
 - Would the Commissioner be prepared to justify its acceptance to the public?
- 10.5 Any gifts or hospitality should be registered. It should be declared whether the value of the gifts are considered to be under or over £25
- 10.6 Details of the donor (for example, the person, company or body) offering the gift or hospitality must also be registered.
- 10.7 Only gifts received in connection with official duties or in the course of employment must be registered. Other gifts and hospitality, such as birthday gifts from family, do not have to be registered.
- 10.8 The gift or hospitality and its donor must be registered within 28 days of receipt.
- 10.9 If the value of the gift or hospitality cannot be ascertained it should be registered in any case as a matter of good practice.
- 10.10 It is accepted that on rare occasions gifts, or hospitality may be received without prior offer or warning. Where possible they should be diplomatically returned or refused. Where this is not possible the gift or hospitality should be registered stating the nature, estimated value of the item and clearly stating the surrounding circumstances.
- 10.11 If a gift or hospitality is offered but declined, the offer of the gift or hospitality should be declared.
- 10.12 For the avoidance of doubt, hospitality is defined as any food, drink, accommodation or entertainment provided free of charge or heavily discounted.