

# **Walsall and Bloxwich Town Deal policies**

## **Code of conduct**

Through the Town Deal, the Walsall and Bloxwich Towns Deal Board is responsible for oversight of a significant amount of public funding. As such, members of the board fulfil their role as public-private partnerships whilst ensuring robust stewardship of public resources.

Members of the Walsall and Bloxwich Towns Deal Board and those supporting the activities of the Town Deal will adhere to the Seven Principles of Public Life ([the Nolan Principles](#)).

## **Conflict of interest**

A conflict of interest arises where a board member, a close associate, immediate family, business, organisation or employer has an interest in a matter, which is the same as, connected to or may be affected by the matter under discussion.

A register of interests shall be established and completed by all members of the Board. This shall be made available to the Chair at all meetings. Walsall Council's Secretariat will maintain the register and review it annually.

At a meeting, board members must declare any interest that they have in any matter to be considered at that meeting. The Board may, at any time, authorise a member to remain in the meeting whilst a matter in which they have or may have a conflict of interest is discussed. A member may speak on the item but must not vote on it.

## **Register of gifts and hospitalities**

Board members must register:

- any gift or hospitality received (or offered), in connection with official duties as a Board member
- the source of that gift or hospitality (or offer)

This will be recorded the register of members' gifts and hospitalities, held by Walsall Council's Secretariat, within 28 days of receiving it.

Acceptance by board members of hospitality through attendance at relevant events, conferences and other Board related activity is acceptable where it is clear the hospitality is corporate rather than personal.

## **Complaints procedure**

If an individual is dissatisfied with the procedures and arrangement in place for the Board, they should raise their concern with a member of the Town Deal Board Secretariat.

If an individual is dissatisfied with the Board or a board member's conduct, the individual should make a formal complaint to the Board's Chair in writing. They should detail the nature of the complaint, which will be investigated in line with Walsall Council's procedure.

Alternatively, [an individual can raise a concern](#).

## **Whistleblowing**

Where it is alleged that the Board is acting in breach of the law or failing to safeguard public funds, Walsall Council's [whistleblowing procedure](#) will be applied.