

## **Nine Principles of Public Life**

The general principles upon which this Code is based have been drawn from the Scottish Government's Model Code of Conduct for Members of Public Bodies. These general principles are:

### **Duty**

You have a duty to uphold the law and act in accordance with the law and the public trust placed in you. You have a duty to act in the interests of the SSSC and in accordance with the core functions and duties of that body.

### **Selflessness**

You have a duty to take decisions solely in terms of public interest. You must not act in order to gain financial or other material benefit for yourself, family or friends.

### **Integrity**

You must not place yourself under any financial, or other, obligation to any individual or organisation that might reasonably be thought to influence you in the performance of your duties.

### **Objectivity**

You must make decisions solely on merit and in a way that is consistent with the functions of the public body when carrying out public business including making appointments, awarding contracts or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits.

### **Accountability and Stewardship**

You are accountable for your decisions and actions to the public. You have a duty to consider issues on their merits, taking account of the views of others and must ensure that the public body uses its resources prudently and in accordance with the law.

### **Openness**

You have a duty to be as open as possible about your decisions and actions, giving reasons for your decisions and restricting information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

### **Honesty**

You have a duty to act honestly. You must declare any private interests relating to your public duties and take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

### **Leadership**

You have a duty to promote and support these principles by leadership and example, and to maintain and strengthen the public's trust and confidence in the integrity of the public body and its members in conducting public business.

### **Respect**

You must respect fellow members and employees of SSSC and the role they play, treating them with courtesy at all times. Similarly you must respect members of the public when performing duties as a member of SSSC.