

Code of Conduct for Trustees (based on the Nolan Principles)

1. The Seven Principles of Public Life

The Seven Principles of Public Life apply to anyone who is a Trustee of the Social Workers Benevolent Trust. This includes all those who are appointed to serve as a Trustee or are co-opted onto the Board to do so.

1.1 Selflessness

Trustees or co-opted Board members should act solely in terms of the public interest.

1.2 Integrity

Trustee or co-opted Board members must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their role. 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.

1.3 Objectivity

Trustees or co-opted Board members must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias and in accordance with the Trust's Governance Document.

1.4 Accountability

Trustees or co-opted Board members are accountable to the applicants, donors and (based on the Trust's Deeds) ultimately to BASW Council and/or the Charity Commission for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

1.5 Openness

Trustees or co-opted Board members should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the applicants, donors or public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

1.6 Honesty

Trustee or co-opted Board members should be truthful.

1.7 Leadership

Trustees or co-opted Board 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.