

Code for Councillors representing the Council on Outside Bodies

- 1 Members are appointed formally by the Council and the Cabinet annually but for varied periods to serve on a range of outside bodies including voluntary organisations, local government associations and companies.
- 2 Sometimes, when Members become Members or directors of such bodies, the leadership offered by them forms a strong driver to achieve the shared objectives of the Council and the body.

In carrying out these roles Members act as both individuals and as representatives of the Council. What does that entail?

(a) Positively

- It entails acting according to the rules and constitution and framework set by the outside body;
- It entails making independent and personal judgements in line with the Members' duty of care to the outside body.
- It entails reporting back at intervals to be agreed by the Council;
- It entails behaving ethically and following as far as is applicable the Members' Code of Conduct and other codes and protocols;
- It entails taking on active and informed roles in the management of the outside body's affairs.

(b) Negatively

- It does not entail representing the political party to which the member owes their political loyalty;
- It does not entail avoiding taking part in the outside body's discussions and decisions - that is what the member is there for.
- It does not entail looking at things simply from this Council's perspective.

- 3 Members should claim travel and other expenses from the outside body if that is possible, if not, from this Council where the duty is an approved duty. In those circumstances Members should not be reimbursed more than once for any expenditure incurred.