

**THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES
OF STANDARDS IN
PUBLIC LIFE
(NOLAN PRINCIPLES)
FOR TRUST BOARD
MEMBERS**

**Barnet, Camden, Enfield,
Haringey and Islington
Primary Care Trusts**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Committee on Standards in Public Life (Nolan Committee) has set out seven principles of public life which it believes should apply to all in public service. The following are the seven principles of conduct that underpin the work of public authorities. The Board is asked to adopt these principles as the basis for working practices across the organisation. Subject to board approval it is intended that these principles be cascaded to staff asking them to recognise the importance of the principles and to uphold them at all times.

2. GOVERNANCE REQUIREMENTS

The seven principles comply with governance requirements contained within the Governance domain of the Healthcare Commission's Standards for Better Health and the Auditors Local Evaluation (ALE)

3. SEVEN NOLAN PRINCIPLES

The following are the Seven Nolan Principles:

3.1 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 benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.

3.2 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.

3.3 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.

3.4 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.

3.5 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.

3.6 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.

3.7 Leadership:

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

4. CONCLUSION

These statements have the support of the Trust Board and PCT staff are asked to recognise the importance of these principles and uphold them at all times.