

## **University of Sunderland**

### **Code of Conduct for Members of Board of Governors**

The Board of Governors being responsible for the control of a public institution and charity, and for the expenditure of public funds, endorses and confirms that it shall at all times abide by the Seven Principles of Public Life as formulated by the Nolan Committee and set out in the Schedule overleaf and resolves that the Members of the Board should comply with the following code at all times in the performance of their duties as members.

A Governor shall

- a) *support the aims and objectives of the University and promote the interests of the University and its students in the wider community*
- b) *work co-operatively with other Governors in the best interests of the University*
- c) *acknowledge that differences of opinion may arise in discussion of issues but, when a majority decision of the Governing Body prevails, it should be supported*
- d) *base his or her view on matters before the Governing Body on an honest assessment of the available facts, unbiased by partisan or representative views*
- e) *acknowledge that as an individual governor, he or she has no legal authority outside the meetings of the Governing Body and its committees*
- f) *understand that an individual governor does not have the right, other than with the Chairman and/or Governing Body's agreement to make statements or express opinions on behalf of the Governors of the University*
- g) *resist any temptation or outside pressure to use the position of Governor to benefit himself or herself or other individuals or agencies*
- h) *declare openly and immediately any personal conflict of interest arising from a matter before the Governors or from any other aspect of governorship*
- i) *respect the confidentiality of those items of business which the Governing Body decides from time to time should remain confidential*
- j) *give priority, as far as practicable, to attendance at meetings of the Governing body and its committees*
- k) *have regard to his or her broader responsibilities as a Governor of a public institution including the need to promote public accountability for the actions and performance of the Governing Body.*
- l) *bring to the attention of the University, through the Vice-Chancellor & Chief Executive any matter in which a Member is personally involved which has the potential to bring the University into disrepute or damage its reputation*

**Approved by the Board of Governors : 24 March 2005**