

## Neighbourhood Partnerships

All members of the Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) must abide by the following fundamental values, that underpin all the activity of the NP:

**Accountability** – Every decision and action undertaken by the NP will be able to stand the test of scrutiny by residents, Bristol City Council (BCC) (councillors and officers), service providers, the media, and any other interested party.

**Integrity and honesty** – All members of the NP are expected to undertake all duties (within the NP and externally) with integrity and honesty, and to always act within the law.

**Transparency** – The NP will maintain a practice of openness and will ensure that as much as possible of its work is available to public scrutiny.

**Equality** - All members of the NP agree to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups and foster good relations between people from different groups in the NP

### **Councillors Code of Conduct for Members.**

This is currently set out in item 6 of the Neighbourhood Committee Terms of Reference:

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*6.1 Neighbourhood Partnership Councillors shall comply with the Bristol City Council Elected Members' Code of Conduct and any other code of conduct of councilors which may be adopted by the council (eg. Officer member protocol).*

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### **Anyone attending NP-related meetings and events should – :**

- Be courteous to all others during the meeting and allow each other the opportunity to speak
- Speak through the Chair and respect their role as meeting leader
- Keep to the subject being discussed
- Follow the guidance of the Chair in the conduct of the meeting

Personal attacks, harassment, bullying, offensive and abusive comments are not acceptable. Substantial breach of any of these points will result in the offender being asked to leave the meeting by the Chair or NPC.

**The Neighbourhood Committee** made up of the ward elected members make decisions on the funding and spend within each Neighbourhood Partnership, they can consider recommendations from the floor, sub groups and partners but they alone make the final decision

## **Public Sector Equality Duty**

Before making any decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires the Neighbourhood Partnership to consider the need to promote equality for persons with the following “relevant protected characteristics”: **age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.**

The Neighbourhood Partnership must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity between different groups who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between different groups who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it.

*The duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination in the area of employment, also covers marriage and civil partnership*