

**ROLE OF INDEPENDENT PERSON – NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ROLE DESCRIPTION**

Responsible to:       The Council

Liaison with:         Monitoring Officer, members of the Standards Committee, officers and members of the District Council and Town and Parish Councillors within the district, key stakeholders within the community.

1. To assist the Council in promoting high standards of conduct by elected and co-opted members of North Hertfordshire District Council and town and parish councillors and in particular to uphold the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council and the seven principles of public office, namely selflessness, honesty, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness and leadership.
2. To be available for consultation by any elected member, including town and parish councillors, who is the subject of a standards complaint.
3. To be available for consultation by the Monitoring Officer and/or the Standards Committee before a decision is taken as to whether to investigate a complaint or to seek local resolution of the same.
4. To be consulted by the Council through the Monitoring Officer and/or the Standards Sub-Committee before it makes a decision on an investigated allegation and to be available to attend meetings of the Hearing Panel of the Standards Committee for this purpose.
5. To develop a sound understanding of the ethical framework as it operates within North Hertfordshire District Council and its town and parish councils.
6. To participate in training events to develop skills, knowledge and experience and in networks developed for Independent Persons operating outside the District Council's area.
7. To attend training events organised and promoted by the Council's Standards Committee.
8. To act as advocate and ambassador for the Council in promoting ethical behaviour.

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