

WHEN DOES THE COUNCILLORS' CODE APPLY?

Councillors must comply with the Councillors' Code of Conduct, when acting in that capacity. The Code does not apply, however, to their personal or private life. It also only covers their conduct, as a councillor, and not their performance. The performance of councillors is a matter for the public, when voting in local elections.

CODE APPLIES:

- When they are acting as a councillor (for example, when attending Council or committee meetings, engaging with council officers, assisting constituents or undertaking site visits).
- When they have identified themselves as a councillor at the time of the conduct in question (for example, by referring to their role on a social media account).
- When they could objectively be perceived to be acting as a councillor (for example, when posting about council-related matters on social media, or when attending an event to which they have been invited as a councillor).

CODE DOES NOT APPLY / COVER:

- When they are acting in a purely personal or private capacity (this is even in cases where someone recognises they are, or identifies them as, a councillor).
- When they are at an event that is unconnected to the Council or their role as a councillor, and where they have not identified themselves as a councillor.
- How they perform as a councillor (for example, how helpful they are to constituents, and whether and how quickly they respond to requests for assistance).
- Decisions they make as a councillor (for example, on how the Council's budget should be spent or how savings should be made).

The Councillors' Code can be found at www.standardscommissionscotland.org.uk/codes-of-conduct.