

Brighton & Hove Seaside Community Homes Tenant Panel: Code of Conduct

1. Aims and Scope

- 1.1. This code of conduct applies to all Seaside Homes tenants when attending a Tenant Panel meeting. Tenants are considered Tenant Panel members for the duration of any Tenant Panel meeting they attend.
- 1.2. The objective of the code of conduct is to ensure that all Panel members understand what kind of conduct is expected and what they have a right to expect from others.
- 1.3. The aim of the code of conduct is to create a welcoming and respectful environment for Panel Members to encourage participation and effective tenant involvement. The code of conduct aims to ensure an environment of mutual respect between members and between Seaside Homes staff and tenants.

2. Conduct

- 2.1. Members will make constructive contributions to the meeting, share responsibility for panel decisions, and accept majority decisions made after discussion.
- 2.2. Members will respect confidentiality, and where a member has shared personal information or circumstances, this will be treated as confidential by all members.
- 2.3. Members will work together to achieve objectives.
- 2.4. Members and staff will treat each other fairly and with respect, allowing all attendees reasonable opportunity to speak.
- 2.5. Members and staff will understand that all views are important even if they are not the same as their own.
- 2.6. Members will ensure that personal or individual enquiries are raised outside of the meeting.
- 2.7. Members will not use abusive or threatening language, or raise personal disputes, during meetings.
- 2.8. Members and staff will ensure all meetings are conducted in accordance with Seaside Homes' Equalities Policy and ensure that equal opportunities are promoted irrespective of race, sex, gender reassignment, disability, age, marriage and civil partnership, religion or belief, or sexual orientation.

2.9. Members will understand that all forms of discrimination, hate crime, bullying or harassment are unacceptable.

2.10. Members will not attend meetings under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances.

3. Conflict of Interests

3.1. Tenants must declare anything that could be seen as a potential conflict of interest or as potentially influencing their contribution to a meeting. This could include but is not limited to:

3.1.1. Working for or having a direct interest in a company that does business with Seaside Homes or our Managing Agent.

3.1.2. Any other interests that could affect judgement or give the impression that a Member could be acting for personal motives (such as by kinship, friendship or member of an organisation).

3.2. Panel members with a conflict of interest may be asked to leave a meeting for certain agenda items.

4. Breaches of the code

4.1. Breaches of the code may result in tenants being asked to leave the meeting. Depending on the severity of the breach, tenants may be disallowed from attending future Panel Meetings.

4.2. Breaches of the code may also result in tenants being removed from other tenant engagement activities, such as Scrutiny Task & Finish Groups.