**Trustees’ Code of Conduct for [INSERT ORGANISATION NAME]**

1. Members of the XXXX board of trustees are responsible for good governance in the organisation, and as such have a duty to accept the responsibilities of their position and to act at all times in the best interests of XXXX and its beneficiaries, ahead of any other professional or personal interest. The general principle to be observed is that the trustees will avoid action or inaction which cannot be justified to the board, XXXX members, or the public. Equally, the trustees should be alert to anything which might give rise to suspicion of improper conduct or bring the organisation into disrepute.

2. On appointment and during business meetings, trustees are required to declare any and all relevant interests and be alert to any potential conflicts. XXXX’s policy on registering interests and managing potential conflict is available here. [insert link]

3. In order to fulfil their duties, trustees should uphold certain values and principles. These include:

* Acting at all times in the best interests of the organisation and its beneficiaries, ahead of any professional or personal interest
* Acting in accordance with the organisation’s governing document and any relevant legislation
* Acting collectively at meetings, with honesty and integrity, respecting confidentiality and diversity of opinion
* Enhancing the organisation’s reputation, taking an active interest in its work
* Upholding the values and principles of the organisation
* Maintaining good relationships with other trustees and with staff, volunteers, members and other people in the organisation
* Actively contributing to the work of the board by regularly attending meetings and preparing and participating in discussion and decision-making.

4. Trustees are expected to attend board meetings, and that this is understood to mean at least 75% of all meetings in any given year.

*If there is provision in your constitution you may wish to add the following:*

5. In accordance with section XX of XXXXs constitution, any trustee who is absent (without good reason, in the opinion of the board of trustees) from more than three consecutive meetings, or does not attend at least 75% of all meetings, can be removed from office, if the board of trustees resolves to do so.

6. In accordance with section XX of XXXX’s constitution, a trustee may be removed from office where they have committed a material breach of this Code of Conduct, or where they have failed to comply with the Conflicts of Interest Policy. Section XX of the constitution states that if removal is proposed, the trustee must be given reasonable notice, in writing, of the grounds for removal. They will be given an opportunity to address those concerns at the board meeting considering the proposal. Trustees will vote on the decision and a vote of two thirds of trustees is required if the removal is to take effect.

**Document version control**

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