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**MidCentral Governance Group:**

**Code of Conduct: How we will behave**

**In our meetings we will:**

* challenge the idea, not the person
* listen to understand, and check our understanding (open our ears before our mouths)
* talk one at a time, and make sure everyone has a chance to speak, be heard and understood
* take the time to think
* be solution focused in our suggestions for positive change (constructive criticism)
* build trusting relationships with each other
* trust each other to be do what we say we will do, and to behave in the ways we have agreed
* be kind to each other and ourselves
* we are loyal to each other and the decisions we make as a group.

**To support this we will**:

* come prepared to the meetings
* keep to the agenda
* be clear about what information can be shared outside the meetings
* have a summary of our meeting posted on the Mana Whaikaha website
* keep a register of our interests.

Sometimes people in the group might have a **conflict of interest** when we are talking and making decisions.

A **conflict of interest** is when someone cannot make a fair decision because:

* they have something to do with what is being talked about
* they could benefit in some way when a decision is made.
* As a group we will and talk with each other about how to manage any **conflict of interest**. And we will write down how we make this decision.
* look at and when needed, change our Code of Conduct.

**Our decision making will line up with the Enabling Good Lives vision and principles. We will**:

* record the decisions we make, and why in the minutes
* make sure people have the information they need before being asked to makes decisions
* be OK with changing our mind
* be OK with not changing our mind
* be OK with needing more time and/or information to make a decision.