



PLUMSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1. This Code of Conduct shall be binding on all members of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch. The purpose of this code of conduct is to assure the safety of all Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch members, patrollers and members of the public at all times. This document intends to promote the objectives of the Constitution of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch.**
- 2. Members of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch must serve as the eyes and ears of the community it serves and must cooperate with the South African Police Service.**
- 3. Members of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch must at all time act in a non-violent manner. No member may take the law into his or her own hands irrespective of circumstances. No Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch member or patroller may stop or search any suspicious person/s or seize any property on such a person/s. No form of vigilantism will be accepted.**
- 4. No member of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch shall display racism, sexism or any other form of discrimination towards any member and any other person. This shall not be limited to but include inter alia any form of social media, WhatsApp messages and groups or any other forms of communication whatsoever.**
- 5. When on patrol a Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch member may only use “minimum force” as described in the Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977, read with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 and the South African Police Services Act 68 of 1995, to ensure the arrest of the perpetrator of a Schedule 1 offence (as per attached guidelines – marked *Citizen’s Arrest*) and**

no intimidation in whatever form may be used in the communities where such patrols will be taking place.

- 6. No member of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch may when patrolling carry any weapon(s) perceived to be dangerous that could inflict serious bodily harm and or damage to property; this shall include dangerous weapons as defined by law. Only weapons for the sole purpose of self defense as approved by the Provincial Commissioner, South African Police Services, Western Cape may be used.**
- 7. Any Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch member who intends taking a firearm on patrol must adhere to the rules and regulations as laid down in the Firearms Control Act, Act 60 of 2000.**
- 8. No person under the age of 18 years may participate in any patrol.**
- 9. Members of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch may not divulge any confidential or privileged information that they may have acquired as a result of their membership of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch.**
- 10. Members of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch found to be making public statements and or addressing the media without the explicit authority from the Executive Committee of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch duly mandating the member to act for and on behalf of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch will be found guilty of a serious offence, resulting in the immediate suspension of the member pending expulsion subject to the merits of the matter.**
- 11. No member of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch may accept payment, commission or gratuity in connection with his or her membership of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch except after being duly authorised to do so by the Executive Committee of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch.**
- 12. No member of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch may exploit his or her membership of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch for personal advantage or benefit.**
- 13. Members of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch must at all times act in a manner that will uphold and promote the aims and objectives of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch as highlighted in Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch Constitution and this Code of Conduct.**

- 14. All Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch members must when on patrol ensure that the following is adhered to at all times:**
- **All patrols are booked via the Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch website. As required by DOCS**
 - **All members must carry an identification card clearly visible, identifying him /her as a member of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch. As required by DOCS**
 - **All members must wear an orange reflective vest with the identifying mark “PLUMSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH” displayed on the back of the vest. Members are allowed to wear a black tactical vest, obtainable from a Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch approved supplier, on condition that the PNW logo is prominently displayed on the front of the vest and the patch on the back to be white reflective lettering designated as “PLUMSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH”. As required by DOCS**
 - **All members are to be clearly identifiable to members of the public. As required by DOCS**
 - **All members must display the decals of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch (as provided to them) on the side of the vehicle. As required by DOCS**
 - **All members must make use of a white or amber lamp fitted on the roof of the vehicle unless they have a valid reason why they should not use the lamp. As required by DOCS**
 - **All members to follow proper radio procedure**
 - **By law, no member is allowed to stop and search vehicles or members of the public.**
- 15. Should a member of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch be found guilty of a criminal offence committed when the member is operating as a Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch member, Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch will take such disciplinary actions as are considered appropriate by the Executive Committee of Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch and will issue a public statement regarding its action.**
- 16. Any Plumstead Neighbourhood Watch member found to be in contravention of this Code of Conduct shall be guilty of a serious offence, resulting in the immediate suspension of the member, pending expulsion and subject to full investigation and decision on the matter.**
- 17. By pledging adherence to this Code of Conduct the member acknowledges that he or she is fully aware of the risks involved due to the nature of the task.**