

**Subject:** Code of Conduct for MPs: Our reference OIA 2022/04  
**Date:** Friday, 16 September 2022 at 9:22:55 AM New Zealand Standard Time  
**From:** Wendy McGuinness  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**CC:** Arne Larsen

To whom it may concern,

### Code of Conduct for MPs

I am writing to gain a more detailed understanding of whether a code of conduct for MPs currently exists, and if not why not? Below are five questions that aim to explore this issue.

1. Does a New Zealand Code of Conduct for MPs currently exist? If yes, where can a copy of the current code be found (e.g. link)?
2. If no, was a Code of Conduct ever discussed/progressed by MPs in the House or by DPMC in the last twenty years? If it was discussed, who discussed it (and when) and why did the idea never take hold?
3. Do you know whose [speech](#) this is? Can you share the context?

Note: The dates at the top may be incorrect (i.e. it states last updated in 2007, but originally published in 2019) and the links at the bottom are not working.

4. Do any document/s exist that outline how New Zealand might develop a Code of Conduct for MPs? If yes, could you provide a copy? We are keen to learn who would write the code, how would it become approved and who would administer/police it. Any further information or suggestions on who might have this information would be appreciated.
5. Is there anything in our constitutional arrangements, New Zealand law or our protocols that might prevent MPs from developing their own code of conduct? Please expand and provide any relevant material.

Your answers will help provide some context for a research paper we hope to publish early in the new year.

Thank you so much for your time.

Best wishes, Wendy

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