

CODE OF PRACTICE

The service offered by *Bridge Community Project* to the general public must follow the principles outlined below.

The service must be:

- 1. available to all who might benefit (regardless of their race, religion, colour, gender or disability).
- 2. truly independent, uninfluenced by the interests of any local authority or Government department and free from any political bias.
- 3. given completely free of charge or any other obligation.
- 4. completely confidential (see Confidentiality Policy, Security Policy & Privacy Notice).
- 5. given with respect for the individual, acknowledging their right and ability to make their own decisions.
- 6. impartial and non-judgmental.
- 7. competent, accurate, prompt, fair, honest and diligent in checking facts with documentary evidence.

Bridge Community Project must not:

- 1. knowingly aid and abet a fraud.
- 2. knowingly break the law.
- 3. act as a debt collector. We will not seek to recover monies owed to our clients by private citizens or companies.
- 4. assist a client to sue for damages.
- 5. provide references for our clients.
- 6. act against an adviser's better judgement. That is, we will not vigorously pursue a course of action a client has requested if we feel that action is unwise (though there is nothing to prevent the client acting on their own behalf or seeking the assistance of another agency).