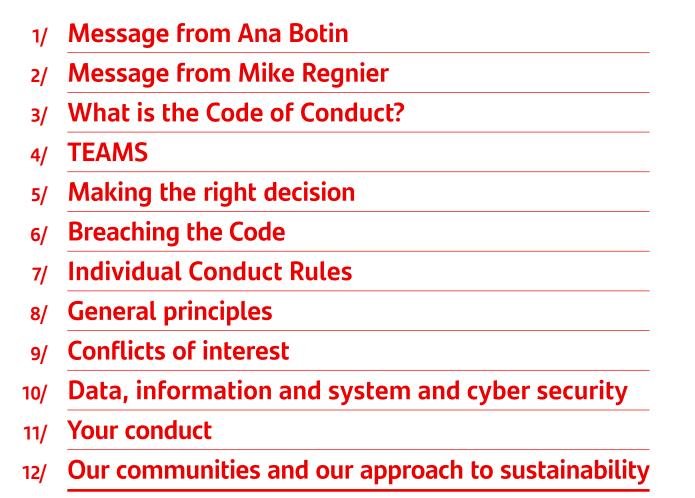


## Our Code of Conduct

What it means to work at Santander









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### 1/ Message from Ana Botín

At Santander, we share a common culture, The Santander Way. This sets out our purpose – to help people and business prosper; our aim – to be the best open financial services platform; and the way we do everything to be Simple, Personal and Fair. Underpinning this is a robust culture of risk management and compliance ("Risk Pro") and our corporate behaviours ("TEAMS").

This Code of Conduct contributes to our culture. It sets out how we should act and behave towards everyone we encounter through our work. Being honest, transparent and ethical is everyone's responsibility, and is the bedrock of a bank one can trust. We must therefore:

• Know and follow internal and external regulation, so as to benefit our customers, shareholders and the Group.

• Report anything that is not as it should be, so that it can be corrected, we can learn from our mistakes, and Santander can remain the highly trusted bank we have always been.

If we believe in and abide by our strong corporate culture every day, it will empower us to drive our transformation and be a leader in responsible banking.

I'm counting on you. Your conduct matters.



**Executive Chair of the Santander Group** 

### 2/ Message from Mike Regnier

Welcome to our Code of Conduct. It's essential reading to help you understand the standards we all need to work to at Santander. We have a strong, trusted brand so it's really important that we all appreciate and uphold the behaviours and standards so we deliver for our customers, our people and shareholders.

We're trusted by our customers, by the communities we operate in and by our regulators – and that's because we have a culture of doing the right thing. We all have a critical role to play in driving and maintaining that culture and the standards that underpin it.

Our new Strategic Blueprint outlines the importance of our TEAMS behaviours – Think Customer, Embrace Change, Act Now, Move Together and Speak Up. They're the way we do things around here and this Code of Conduct reinforces how these elements come together to drive our culture and maintain the standards, so we continue to be trusted by everyone we engage with.

Please take the time to read this Code of Conduct and make sure you refer to it regularly so you're clear what's expected of you.

Thank you.



### 3/ What is the Code of Conduct?

#### What is the Code of Conduct?

The Code of Conduct, or "Code" for short is a guide for all of us which outlines what's expected of us at Santander. Following the Code will enable us to uphold the greatest standards in our work and behaviour, which will benefit our clients, the communities we serve, and each other. It helps us:

- act in the best interests of Santander and to deliver good outcomes for our customers
- collectively and collaboratively work toward our corporate goals
- consistently demonstrate honest and professional conduct
- comply with all the relevant laws, regulations and internal policies and procedures
- keep confidential any non-public or customer information which we have access to.

The Code applies to all employees and directors of Santander UK whether permanent, temporary and includes contractors and agency employees, regardless of role.

The code sits alongside our Strategic Blueprint which defines our future direction, and sets out our why, our what, and our how, all underpinned by a set of clear strategic goals. It articulates how we are going to achieve our purpose and outlines our passion.

**Our purpose:** to help people and businesses prosper.

**Our passion:** to be the easiest way for customers to make their better happen.



#### Our values

**Simple:** we offer accessible services and products.

**Personal:** we interact with people, which is why we treat each person as unique. We offer them the products and services that best suit their needs.

Fair: we promote fairness and transparency and we keep our promises. We establish good relationships with different stakeholders because we know that what is good for them is also good for us.

**Continued over** 

### 4/ TEAMS

**TEAMS** are the corporate behaviours we all need to work to at Santander, which underpin our Strategic Blueprint – They guide how we all should act and behave:



#### **Think Customer**

I care about our customers, so I go the extra mile to earn their trust and loyalty.



#### **Embrace Change**

I embrace new challenges and I see new ways of doing things as an opportunity to grow.



#### **Act Now**

I take accountability and manage risks accordingly, always keeping things simple.



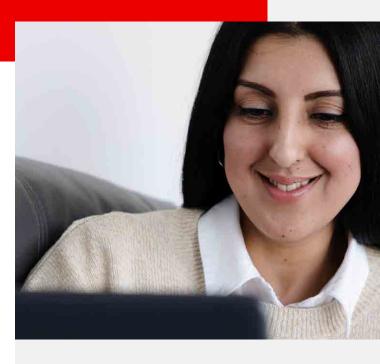
#### **Move Together**

I seek opportunities to promote collaboration and work together to achieve common goals.



### **Speak Up**

I feel free to raise any idea, ask any question or escalate any issues or risks, building an environment of respect and trust. I am comfortable sharing and receiving feedback.



#### **Risk Pro**

Our approach to managing risk is shared, attentive and robust. The shared management system is one in which the entire team participates – front line people, support roles, senior managers Solaruco, Executive Committee and right up to the Board of Directors.

### 5/ Making the right decision

Every day we make hundreds of decisions. We use our values to think through decisions before we act to make sure we do the right thing for Santander and for our customers and communities.

Decisions are not always straight forward, but always ask yourself:

- Is it legal?
- Does it comply with our internal policies and processes?
- Could I justify my decision or action to my manager, the people I work with, my friends/family and have I sought views from the right people and done so at the right time?
- Does it support our **TEAMS** behaviours and would it set a good example to others?
- Do my actions keep me, the people I work with, Santander and our customers safe?
- Does it support the delivery of good outcomes for our customers to make their better happen?

If the answer is no to any of these questions, it's possible that you're making the wrong decision. If you're still unsure, ask your manager for advice and guidance.





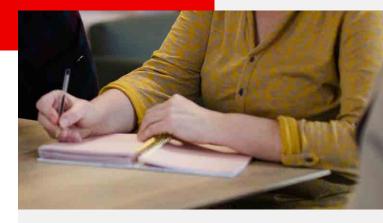


If you breach the Code you may put yourself in a position where you are subject to disciplinary action, in addition to any potential regulatory or legal implications.

If you need support or guidance or you have any questions about any section of the Code, speak to your manager.

If you become aware of, or suspect any breaches of the Code or any of our policies, please speak up. You should tell your manager or raise it via one of the speaking up channels. Speaking up and challenging is vital in creating and maintaining a healthy workplace culture.





#### Whistleblowing

If you witness or suspect wrongdoing or malpractice you can raise concerns to the Whistleblowing Team <a href="whistleblowingteam@santander.co.uk">whistleblowingteam@santander.co.uk</a> or via our third-party reporting platform 'Ethics Point' by phone 0800 069 8792 or online <a href="www.santanderuk.ethicspoint.com">www.santanderuk.ethicspoint.com</a>.

We do not tolerate employees threatening or retaliating against whistleblowers. Any form of retaliation, including the threat of reprisal, against someone who has reported a concern will be taken seriously and where proven will result in disciplinary action.

Find out more on the Whistleblowing Policy or Whistleblowing intranet page.

### 7/ Individual Conduct Rules

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has expectations of organisations it regulates and the conduct of people who work for those organisations. The expectations about minimum standards of individual behaviour are covered in the FCA's Individual Conduct Rules (ICR):

- 1 You must act with integrity.
- 2 You must act with due skill, care and diligence.
- 3 You must be open and cooperative with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA), and other regulators.
- 4 You must pay due regard to the interests of customers and treat them fairly.
- 5 You must observe proper standards of market conduct.
- 6 You must act to deliver good outcomes for retail customers.

Our Santander behaviours and values are consistent with these.

There are additional expectations for senior leaders and if you are unsure if these apply to you, please speak with your manager or HR.



### 8/ General principles continues over

At Santander, we conduct ourselves honestly and professionally and always act in good faith. We maintain high professional and ethical standards and we recognise that the way we conduct ourselves may reflect on Santander UK and the wider Santander Group.

We recognise that some customers will experience periods of vulnerability and we are committed to providing additional support to those who may need it during such times.

We aim to be a place where all our people feel they belong and are supported to succeed. We're committed to supporting diversity and creating an open and inclusive culture, knowing it is important to business success and integral to achieving the strategic objective of being the best bank to work for.

We respect each other. We don't bully each other, and we create a working environment where concerns can be raised and dealt with sensitively and effectively. If concerns are raised to us, we take accountability and act on those.

**We provide** a safe space for everyone to work. We do not tolerate sexual harassment, or any other form of harassment.

**People managers** play a vital role in creating a healthy workplace environment. They will act on concerns raised to them and take appropriate actions to address the concerns.

We do not tolerate discrimination against anyone (employees, suppliers or customers) on the basis of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, language, place of origin, philosophical belief or trade union membership (or lack thereof). We do not tolerate anyone making remarks or acting in ways that could undermine the culture of respect we aspire towards. We expect people to be tolerant and to set an example.

**If we** become aware of inappropriate behaviours we speak up and challenge. We take allegations of this nature seriously and act upon them.

**We comply** with legal and regulatory requirements as well as internal policies and procedures. We report any suspicion of fraud or other form of unacceptable practice that comes to our attention.

We take personal responsibility and accountability for proactively identifying, assessing, managing and reporting risks within our own business area and across Santander.



**We act** in the best interests of Santander at all times and, in business decisions, we put the interests of Santander and its customers ahead of our own personal interests.

**We learn** and engage in training opportunities to develop professionally, including mandatory and compulsory training.

We take care of the resources and equipment that are available to us.

We follow rules relating to health and safety in the workplace to prevent and minimise workplace risks; looking after not only ourselves but the people we work with and our customers.

We create a safe work environment that's compatible with personal development while helping people to balance their work commitments with their personal and family lives. We foster open, transparent and constructive dialogue, and work in partnership with our recognised Unions; Advance & CWU.

We Speak Up and live our behaviours and values and manage risks (Risk Pro) as an integral part of the Santander Way.

### 8/ General principles continued

#### Our customers

We proactively consider the customer and how we can ensure the delivery of good outcomes for customers in all day-to-day work, ensuring we are compliant with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority's Consumer Duty.

**We provide** products and services that are designed to meet customers' needs, that provide fair value, that help customers achieve their financial objectives, and which do not cause them harm.

**We only** offer customers products or services consistent with their specific needs and only once they understand them. In particular:

- We don't provide products or services with the sole aim of generating commissions or income and without thinking about the interests of the customer, and,
- We don't provide customers with advice in relation to taxes or tax planning.
- We don't offer favours, compensation or courtesies to anyone that we do business with, that could be linked to obtaining profit or decisions in favour of Santander.

We make sure suspicious activity and transactions are reported in line with the Suspicious Activity Report process and we're committed to the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

We believe that it is in the interests of our customers, and of all with whom we deal, to compete fairly in markets and that this is vital to the success and reputation of our organisation.

We promote a culture of awareness and compliance around competition law, with a proactive and strong tone from the top; and we never take part in cartels.

#### **Working with Suppliers**

We do not knowingly do business with any organisation who does not meet our ethical standards. If our role involves working with suppliers, we refer to our Procurement SharePoint for information we need.



### 9/ Conflicts of interest

We ensure that we do not put our own personal interests (or that of our families or friends) above the interests of Santander or our customers. Where there is a conflict of interest or risk of a conflict of interest, we follow the Santander UK Conflicts of Interest Policy, which details how to deal with this in the right way.

We do not use any information which we have acquired through our roles or otherwise through our employment by Santander to our personal advantage.

We inform our manager if we are in a personal relationship with a colleague at Santander, have a business relationship with someone, or with a Politically Exposed Person (PEP) so that our manager can determine if a conflict of interest exists. We also declare any outside business interests to our manager.

We don't accept gifts, invitations, favours, or other types of compensation linked to our job at Santander from customers, suppliers, intermediaries, counterparties or any other third party unless they fall within the gifts and hospitality section of Anti Bribery and Corruption Policy.

We do not borrow money from or lend money to anyone else who works for Santander or anyone we have an association with through our job.

Where we are members of external organisations (e.g. a political party or social movement), we make sure that it's clear that we're involved solely in a personal capacity. We take care not to act or communicate these views to customers, external forums, events or third parties as though representing the views of Santander.

Recruitment (internal and external) and promotions should be based on merit and should be fair and transparent to all the applicants. So, we avoid involvement in any recruitment or promotion process which affects people with whom we have a personal (including family) relationship.

Any personal relationships which create a potential conflict of interest around recruitment or promotion should be declared as part of the application process or to the hiring/people manager as soon as possible, and if we are considering applying for a role which if successful would create a potential conflict of interest, we may be asked not to apply for the role, as outlined in the **Recruitment and Selection Policy.**We may put in place additional controls and checks for high-risk roles before confirming.

A personal relationship is anything more than a straightforward business acquaintance: it includes immediate family members, other relatives, friendships, and anyone you're in a relationship with. You must disclose any such relationships to HR and your line manager.

### What do we mean by family member?

Immediate family members are your spouse or person in a similar relationship, your parents, your children, your siblings, your grandparents and their partners. Other family members for the purposes of this Code are your aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, cousins and their partners. Family members encompass both of these categories.

We do not manage colleagues with whom we have a personal relationship, nor do we become involved in decisions around their performance assessments or working arrangements.

Family members (either immediate or other family members) are not permitted to report directly to another family member (hierarchical or functional). Indirect reporting between other family members may be permitted, subject to approval by Compliance and HR on a case-by-case basis but this is not permitted between immediate family members.

If we hold a Senior management position, all family links will be analysed on a case-by-case basis by the Compliance and HR functions, even if we do not have a hierarchical/functional dependency with those family members. Please see the **Conflicts of Interest Policy** for more information.

**We do not** participate in any transactions carried out by our entities in which we or a person linked to us has an interest.



### 10/ Data, information and system and cyber security

We respect and protect the privacy and personal data of our customers, employees and others whose personal data we process. We follow all the relevant data protection legislation (Applicable Laws) and in accordance with our policies, guidelines and procedures.

We never provide or share business confidential information, or personal data about our customers or our employees and others whose personal data we process unless we're authorised and have a genuine business reason to do so.

We don't use, copy, share, publish or remove any material which may amount to confidential information (CI), intellectual property (IP) or personal data without an appropriate legal basis for doing so. This includes CI, IP or personal data from previous employers. Unless we have a proper business reason to and are permitted to under Applicable Laws, we never share information externally while we're working at Santander or after leaving (this applies equally to temporary workers and contractors). We ensure the protection of similar property belonging to the wider Santander Group.

We make sure that we keep appropriate and accurate records and we use our IT systems in accordance with all the relevant policies, including but not limited to Cyber related Policies.

We each have a role to play in protecting Santander. Customers and employees trust us with their information, so we have a responsibility to do the right thing, be vigilant and keep cyber security front of mind.





### 11/ Your conduct

### Media, public appearances and personal social media

We know that if and when we speak externally or engage with the media, our comments and views may represent Santander. In order to determine whether we have permission to speak at an event, interact with the media, or take part in a forum on behalf of Santander, we must first inform our manager, who may consult the External Relations team. We don't disclose company information or issue reports addressed to clients to the media or third-parties unless it's appropriate and with necessary approval.

While personal use of social media is every individual's responsibility, being employees of Santander UK, we make sure we handle our online profiles and content we post on social media responsibly and conscientiously. We recognise that our use of social media should be done in such a way that it cannot be perceived to be the opinion of Santander.

#### **Individual expenses**

We make sure any expenses incurred by us as a result of travel for professional reasons, meal allowances etc. are in accordance with the guidelines covered under the Business Expense Policy of Santander UK.

#### Financial markets

We don't enter into transactions in financial markets using confidential information from customers or suppliers or information that is sensitive to us (insider information) and that we have access to because of our role.

We read and follow the Market Abuse Policy, where relevant to our role.

If we work in Santander Corporate & Investment Banking, including the CFO division ("Wholesale") and the Corporate and Commercial Banking division ("CCB") we are also subject to the Wholesale Compliance Manual and CCB Market Conduct procedures, respectively.

**We comply** with the Share Dealing and Insider Information Policies.

**Our individual participation** in the financial markets is responsible and within our financial means.

#### **Financial Economic Crime**

We recognise the impact Economic Crime has on our customers, employees and communities, as well as the wider society and are committed to deterring, detecting and disrupting it.

We collaborate with law enforcement, government and other external agencies to ensure we are playing our part in tackling financial crime.

We comply with all relevant policies including but not limited to those relating to Anti Money Laundering, the Facilitation of Tax Evasion, Terrorist Financing, Fraud, Anti Bribery and Corruption and Sanctions unless authorised as part of our role.

We all have a vital role to play in the identification, assessment, mitigation and management of Economic Crime risks. We are all responsible for managing risk, raising any concerns via the appropriate channels.

# 12/ Our communities and our approach to sustainability

**Our Sustainability and Responsible Banking** strategy sets out our ambition in this area. It supports our vision of helping people and business prosper and responds to our most important sustainability issues. It consists of three pillars:

- i. **Environment** meet regulatory requirements and contribute towards Banco Santander group ambitions to be net zero by 2050.
- ii. Social support productivé inclusive growth across our customers, our communities and our people.
- iii. **Governance** clear and robust governance with well-defined accountability which promotes the success of Santander, its customers and other stakeholders.

**Santander Group** is a founding signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Banking. The Principles for Responsible Banking are a unique framework for ensuring that signatory banks' strategy and practice align with the vision society has set out for its future in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement.





### Owner and approvals

**This policy** is owned by the Employee Conduct and Accountability Team, who are responsible for its approval and annual review with the Santander UK Board.