

Agenda

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Monday, 9 October 2023, 2.00 pm

**Kidderminster Room,
County Hall, Worcester**

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DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and **'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests** **OR** relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

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Membership:

Group A (Representatives of Christian and other faiths)

Mr G Bounds (Free Church Representative), Ade Couper (Quaker Representative), Sheila Hicks (Catholic Diocesan Education Service), Mrs T Khawaja (Muslim Representative), Jenny Lockwood (Worcestershire Baha'i Community), Mr J Loyal (Sikh Representative), Mrs C Parker (Methodist Representative), Aimee Parsons (Catholic Diocesan Education Service) and Dr Y Stollard (Jewish Representative)

Group B (Church of England Representatives)

Danielle Evans (Church of England) and Rev Duncan Hutchison (Diocese of Worcester)

Group C (Representatives of Recognised Teachers Associations)

Charlotte Betteridge (NASUWT) and Mr C Giles (Teacher Representative)

Group D (Elected representatives of the Local Authority)

Cllr Mel Allcott (Worcestershire County Council), Cllr Matt Jenkins (Worcestershire County Council) and Cllr Emma Marshall (Worcestershire County Council)

Co-opted Representatives

Ms E Hill (University of Worcester)

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All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website.

Date of Issue: Thursday, 28 September 2023

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