

Note:

- 1) You must declare that you have a personal interest and the nature of that interest, as soon as it becomes apparent to you in all meetings before the matter is discussed.
- 2) There are two exemptions to the rule on declaring a personal interest, which is a key change under the revised Code.

Exemptions apply where an interest arises solely from membership of, position of control or management on:

- Any other body to which you were appointed or nominated by the authority.
- Any other body exercising functions of a public nature for example, if you have been appointed as a school governor.

In these exceptional circumstances you only need to declare your interest if and when you speak on a matter, provided that you do not have a prejudicial interest (see below).

Prejudicial interests

Your personal interest will also be a prejudicial interest if it meets all of the following conditions:

- a) The matter does not fall within one of the exempt categories of decisions under paragraph 10(2)(c), for example, setting the council tax.
- b) The matter affects your interests financially or a licensing or regulatory matter, for example an application for a grant funding to a body on your register of interests, or a planning or licensing application made by you or a body on your register of interests.
- c) A member of the public, who knows the relevant facts, would reasonably think your personal interest so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

Note: in order for your interest to be prejudicial, it must be a financial or regulatory matter.

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Q1 Is paragraph 12(2) mandatory for

What to do if you

