



Fenland District Council

## **MEMBER GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETING THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

This document is intended to provide guidance about the information members should include on the register of disclosable pecuniary interests form and should be read in conjunction with it, Fenland District Council's Constitution and Member's Code of Conduct.

It is a legal requirement that each member must register their disclosable pecuniary interests and those of their partner. A form must be completed for each authority of which you are a member and it is not sufficient to simply refer to the register of another authority.

Each individual member must make their own judgement about making a declaration and they should not rely on a direction from an officer though, if in doubt, they should seek guidance from the Monitoring Officer on 01354 622360 or [cpilson@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:cpilson@fenland.gov.uk).

All members are required to complete the form within 28 days of them being elected or re-elected. Outside this period, when members have declared a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting and that interest was not on their register they must provide an updated form within 28 days of that meeting. The same applies to members making individual decisions (for example signing a Cabinet Member Decision Notice).

### ***Sensitive Information***

"Sensitive information" means information whose availability for inspection by the public creates or is likely to create a serious risk that you or a person who lives with you may be subjected to violence or intimidation.

Where you consider that the information relating to any of you or your partner's personal interests is sensitive information and the Monitoring Officer agrees, you need not include that information when registering that interest or, as the case may be, a change to that interest. A note will be placed in the register simply to confirm that an interest exists but not details will be disclosed.

You must within 28 days of becoming aware of any change of circumstances, which means that information excluded under the previous paragraph is no longer sensitive information, notify the Monitoring Officer asking that the register is updated either to remove the interest (if it no longer exists) or to include the normal detail relating to it.

## **PART 1: DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Failure to register or declare a disclosable pecuniary interest is a criminal offence. So is speaking and voting on an item of business where that interest is engaged unless a dispensation has been given. Non-compliance with these requirements is punishable by a fine of up to £5,000 and/or disqualification as a Councillor for up to five years.

Even though this information sits on the public register of interest, if your disclosable pecuniary interest is engaged by any item of business of the Council, you must declare this at the meeting and not speak or vote on the item, and you must leave the room.

It is also advised that you make your disclosable pecuniary interest known to other Councillors in any informal meetings the Council holds such as All Member Seminars. Further in ensuring compliance with the principles of public life set out in the Code of Conduct, Members must ensure that they do not seek to unduly influence officers or other Members in any formal or informal setting where their interests are engaged.

### **ANY EMPLOYMENT, OFFICE, TRADE, PROFESSION OR VOCATION CARRIED OUT BY YOU OR YOUR PARTNER FOR PROFIT OR GAIN**

- You should declare the name of you/your partner's employer if you are employed.
- If you or your partner are self-employed or run your own business you should declare this information.
- You should declare every type of employment, office, trade, profession or vocation that you or your partner carry out or should declare for income tax purposes;
- You should include the name of any firm of which you or your partner are a Partner and the name of any company of which you are a remunerated Director. Also include any body which has appointed you with or without remuneration.
- In each instance you should provide a brief description of the activity concerned e.g. 'accountant'.

NB: Whilst the declaration required does not include any voluntary or unpaid post, 'gain' could include other rewards e.g. bonus payments or share dividends.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

Note: This section only applies to you (and not your partner).

- You should always include any payment made to you for expenses incurred as a member of Fenland District Council.
- You should show here the name of any person or body, except Fenland District Council, who has made a payment to you in respect of your election expenses.
- You should include any payment made to you by a trade union.
- You do not need to declare the amount of any payments, only the name of the person or organisation making them.

Note: It is likely that if you are a member of a registered political party you will have had your expenses met by your political party or any other organisation and you are therefore advised to check this before completing this section. This would then need to be declared.

## **CONTRACTS**

You should describe all contracts of which you or your partner are aware which are not fully discharged and which are:

- Contracts between Fenland District Council (or your Town/Parish Council as appropriate) and yourself and/or your partner for the supply of goods or services or works to the Council (District/Town/Parish); and
- Contracts between a firm in which you or your partner are a Partner or a company of which you are a Director or in which you have a beneficial interest and the Council (District/Parish/Town) for the supply of goods, services or works to the Council (District/Parish/Town) or on its behalf.
- You need not say what the financial arrangements are but should say for how long the contract is.

## **LAND, LICENCES & CORPORATE TENANCIES**

- You should declare any land in the council area for which you have been elected and in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest (that is, in which you or your partner have some proprietary interest for your own benefit).
- You should include the house in which you live whether owned or rented.
- You should declare any property from which you or your partner receive rent or of which you are the mortgagee.
- You should declare land in the council area for which have been elected and in which you or your partner have a right either alone or jointly with another to occupy for 28 days or longer but neither own nor have a tenancy of. This includes allotments, garage licences, grazing arrangements or any other short-term arrangements.
- You should list any tenancies of property of which you or your partner are aware that the landlord is the council and the tenant is either a firm in which you or your partner are a Partner or a company of which you or your partner are a Director or in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.
- For each of the properties declared you should give the address or a brief description sufficiently to identify it.

Note: "Land" includes any buildings or parts of buildings but does not necessarily require a building to be present.

## **SECURITIES**

- If you or your partner own shares or other forms of equity in a company or other body which has a place of business within the council area, you will need to consider whether the interest is to be registered.
- You need to identify the nominal value; this is the amount of shared indicated on the certificate, not the market value. If this exceeds £25,000 you need to register the name of the company or body.
- If this is less than £25,000 but you or your partner's share is more than 1% of the total issued share capital, you still need to register the name of the company or body.
- This includes companies, industrial and provident societies, co-operative societies or other bodies corporate.
- Deposits at banks or building societies do not need to be shown.

## **PART 2: NON-PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

You should provide details of any other interests you wish to declare but which are not disclosable pecuniary interests. They will instead be 'non-disclosable pecuniary interests' or 'non-pecuniary' interests and are generally defined in Fenland District Council's Code of Conduct as 'Other Interests'.

Other Interests will arise where an item of business to be considered by the authority for which you are elected requires:

- A decision which might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing of you or a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of council tax payers, rate payers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the authority's administrative area; or
- It relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests which fall within the definition of a disclosable pecuniary interest but in respect of a member of your family (other than your partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Non-exhaustive examples could include:

- Membership of or position of control or management in any body to which you have been appointed by the Council as its representative (i.e. an outside body appointment);
- Membership of a body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy;
- Membership of a charitable organisation, a trade union, professional association or private club.



# REGISTER OF MEMBERS' FINANCIAL AND OTHER INTERESTS

## Fenland District Council

The Localism Act 2011 requires you to declare your interests by completing this form within 28 days of your election or appointment to office. You must also complete a revised form within 28 days of becoming aware of any changes to the information you have provided.

Please complete each section for you and your partner. If the section is not applicable to you or your partner please write 'N/A' or 'none'; please do not leave the section blank.

Please note that 'partner' means your spouse or civil partner or someone with whom you are living as if you were spouses or civil partners. For the purpose of this register, an interest of your partner is classed as **your** disclosable pecuniary interest. The Council's website will not name your partner and all disclosable pecuniary interests, including those that relate to your partner will be shown on the Council's website as your interests.

Completed forms should be returned to the Member Services Team for forwarding to the Monitoring Officer. The interests declared will then be recorded in a register which is maintained by the Monitoring Officer and will be published on Fenland District Council's website. If however you consider that disclosure of some or all of the information included in this form could lead to you or any person connected with you being exposed to violence or intimidation you may apply to Fenland District Council's Monitoring Officer to exclude details of the interest(s) from being published in the register.

If you have any questions about what you have to register please refer to the accompanying guide and/or contact the Monitoring Officer on 01354 622360 or cpilson@fenland.gov.uk for assistance. Failure to register or declare a disclosable pecuniary interest is a criminal offence. So is speaking and voting on an item of business where that disclosable pecuniary interest is engaged unless a dispensation has been given. Non-compliance with these requirements is punishable by a fine of up to £5,000 and/or disqualification as a Councillor for up to five years.

**NAME:**

COUNCILLOR MRS JERISE CHRISTINE HAWES.

**MEMBER OF:**

WHITNESEY TOWN COUNCIL

.....  
**(Please state which Council, Parish Council, Committee or Board you are a member of and whether you hold that position as a co-opted member)**

## PART 1: DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

### ANY EMPLOYMENT, OFFICE, TRADE, PROFESSION OR VOCATION CARRIED OUT BY YOU OR YOUR PARTNER FOR PROFIT OR GAIN

*Please provide details of any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried out by you or your partner for which you receive payment. This will include any paid appointments such as a directorship, any trade or business you undertake (to include self-employment) and any membership of public bodies and other councils if you are entitled to an allowance (but not if you just get out of pocket expenses).*

#### You and Your Partner's Interests:

N/A.

### SPONSORSHIP

*Please provide details of anyone who has paid anything towards your most recent election expenses or anyone apart from Fenland District Council who has paid any expenses towards your role as a member of Fenland District Council within the last 12 months including any payments or financial benefits from a trade union.*

#### Your Interests:

N/A.

## CONTRACTS

Please provide details of any contract for the provision of goods or services which is made between you, your partner or a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest (such as an employer) and Fenland District Council or another organisation contracted to carry out business on the Council's behalf:

- (a) Under which goods and services are to be provided or works are to be carried out; and
- (b) Which has not been fully completed.

You and Your Partner's Interests:

N/A

## LAND

Please provide details of any land within the Fenland District Council area which you or your partner own or rent or in which you have a beneficial interest. Please include the address or location of that land. **This includes the house in which you live whether owned or rented.**

You and ~~Your Partner's~~ Interests:

"GREENACRES"  
39, WEST DEWPH,  
WHITWESY  
NR. PETERBOROUGH  
CAMBS, P.E 7. 1R.D.  
~~N/A~~

**LICENSES**

*Please provide details of any licence or permission held (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land within the Fenland District area for a month or longer.*

**You and Your Partner's Interests:**

N/A

**CORPORATE TENANCIES**

*Please provide details of any tenancy where to your knowledge the landlord is Fenland District Council and the tenant is any of the following:*

- *A company in which you or your partner own any shares;*
- *A company or other corporate body in which you or your partner are a director;*
- *A firm of which you or your partner is a Partner.*

**You and Your Partner's Interests:**

N/A



**SHARES AND SECURITIES**

*Please provide details of any beneficial interest of you or your partner in securities of a body where that body, to your knowledge, has a place of business or land within the Fenland District Council area and either:*

- (a) The total nominal value of the securities exceed £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital of that body; or*
- (b) If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class exceeds £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital of that class.*

*'Securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme and other securities of any description other than money deposited with a building society. 'Nominal value' is the amount indicated on the share certificate, not the market value.*

**You and Your Partner's Interests:**

N/A

## PART 2: NON-PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

Use this section to declare anything that is **not** a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest but which might be affected by Council business. Fenland District Council's Members' Code of Conduct requires that other interests are declared by all members and co-opted members. These declarations will also be published on the Fenland District Council website.

### MEMBERSHIPS AND MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

Please use this section to document:

- Any body of which you are either a member or in which you hold a position of general control or management and to which you have been appointed or nominated by Fenland District Council as its representative; or
- Any organisation of which you are either a member or in which you hold a position of general control or management which:
  - Exercises functions of a public nature;
  - Is directed to charitable purposes;
  - Whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union);
- You do not need to include anything listed in Part 1 but you do need to include membership of any public body even if you are not entitled to receive an allowance.
- Any other membership of any body you wish to disclose

#### You and Your Partner's Interests:

CUR J.C. LAWS.

MEMBER OF NORTH EAST CAMBS PARTY.

CUR J.C. LAWS

SECRETARY OF NOBLE & GROUND'S COATES.

CUR J.C. LAWS

MEMBER OF WHITWESSEY CONSERVATIVE CLUB.

CUR J.C. LAWS

MEMBER OF LADIES NOVA GROUP.

**FAMILY INTERESTS**

You should declare at meetings any interests of a family member/close associate which might be affected by the business under discussion. Please see the Guidance Note and paragraph 10 of the Code of Conduct for further details.

**GIFTS & HOSPITALITY**

Notification of gifts and hospitality of an estimated value in excess of £100 must be given within 28 days of receipt and declared on a separate gifts and hospitality form which can be obtained from the Member Services Team.

**PART 3: DECLARATION**

I confirm that the contents of this form is full and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and that all of the interests of myself and my partner which are required to be declared have been included.

I understand that I must notify the Monitoring Officer of any changes to the information included in this form within 28 days of the change taking place.

I also understand that by signing this form I confirm that I have read and agreed to the Privacy Notice attached to it.

Name of Member:

COUNCILLOR MRS JERISE CHRISTINE LAWS

Signature:



Date:

9th May 2023

Contact Number:

MOBILE : 07951-036667

Monitoring Officer:

.....

Date:

.....

Please return the original form marked for the attention of the Monitoring Officer also retaining a copy for yourself. Where the form is completed by a Town or Parish Councillor, one copy should also be retained by the Clerk.

## PRIVACY NOTICE

As a Councillor/Co-opted Member you are the holder of a public office and there is information we hold about you which we share with the public and publish on our website. The information can be processed by Fenland District Council for any purpose relating to your role as a Councillor. This information includes:

- Your image (for your security, personal ID and publication on the website);
- Name, address, date of birth (if supplied) and contact details;
- Register of interests which will include any occupation;
- Your election record including any political group to which you belong;
- The committees on which you serve and outside bodies to which you may be appointed;
- Your attendance at meetings;
- Audio recordings made by the Council at meetings;
- The allowances and expenses you receive;
- The training you receive;
- Gifts and hospitality you receive; and
- Any complaints about your conduct in accordance with the relevant conduct procedure rules.

Much of this information has to be published by law but not all of it has to be placed on Fenland District Council's website and if you would like some of the above information to be withheld from publication please discuss this with Anna Goodall, Data Protection Officer.

Some non-sensitive information will be maintained indefinitely and become part of the permanent and historical public records of Fenland District Council that may be accessed by the public.

The Council will hold other information about you which will be processed for the purposes of administering your role as a Councillor and improving service. This information will be held securely in accordance with the Council's data management policies and will only be accessible to relevant staff or disclosed to others in accordance with these policies or as required by law.

The Council has a duty to protect public funds and may use and disclose this information to prevent and detect crime. Information used in such circumstances may include:

- Your bank details (if you claim allowances or receive a Basic or Special Responsibility Allowance);
- Your date of birth and NI (if applicable);
- Marital status/next of kin (if supplied);
- Details of any vehicle you use for council business (if you claim business mileage);
- Telephone numbers and email address (if you supply these and do not want us to publish them);
- Any complaints that have not been made public;
- Private communications with the Council; and
- The result of your DBS check (where required).

In addition the following information will be processed with your consent:

- Relevant experiences e.g. professional, business or community roles;
- Division, Council and Political priorities;
- Interests;
- Skills;
- Knowledge
- Training history.

This information will be held securely until you cease to be a Councillor and will be destroyed in accordance with the Council's Retention Policy unless retained for permanent preservation.

Under data protection legislation you have a number of rights which include finding out what personal information we hold about you, requesting us to change or correct any data we hold on your or requesting we delete your personal information (although this would mean we may not be able to provide you with further services). You may also express any concerns with how we use your personal data. For more information please refer to Anna Goodall, Data Protection Officer.

Please note that the **Freedom of Information Act 2000** applies to Fenland District Council. Accordingly we may be legally required to release information about you. We would consult you before releasing any significant information about you unless required by law not to.