

Registered Charity Number: 200846

Reference: Charity Commission + Conflicts of Interest Guide for Charity Trustees

TRUSTEE CONFLICTS of INTEREST POLICY

(1) Definition of a Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest is any situation where a trustee's personal interests or loyalties could, or could be seen to, inhibit the trustee in making a decision only in the best interests of the charity.

A conflict of interest may arise where either:

- There is a potential financial or measurable benefit to the trustee or to a connected person;
or
- A trustee's duty to the charity competes with a duty or loyalty to another organisation or person

(2) Definition of a Conflict of Loyalty

Conflict of loyalty; this means a particular type of conflict of interest in which a trustee's loyalty or duty to another person or organisation could prevent the trustee from making a decision only in the best interests of the charity

A Trustee must not gain any personal benefit and their decision making at the charity must not be influenced by their other interests.

(3) Duty of Trustees

- Trustees have a legal duty to act only in the best interests of their charity.
- Trustees must not put themselves in any position where their duties as trustee may conflict with any personal interest they may have.
- Trustees must declare any potential conflicting business or personal interests and those of spouse, partner and close family.
- Trustees must declare their interest at an early stage and, in most cases, withdraw from relevant meetings, discussions, decisions and making votes

In July each year, after the AGM, trustees will each declare any conflicts and these will be reviewed throughout the year at the start of each committee meeting of MPMC. A conflict of interest will be maintained unless otherwise advised.

(4) Provisions of the Charity Commissioners' Master Park Scheme of 6th Nov 2001

- No trustee may receive any benefit in money or kind from the charity
- No trustee may have any financial interest in the supply of goods or services to the charity
- No trustee may have any personal interest in the property of the charity

(5) Action in the Event of Conflicts of Interest or Loyalty

a. Sports Club Trustees

- Three trustees are appointed by the sports clubs (one from each club).
- They have a legal duty to act only in the best interests of the charity.
- Their role includes communicating the views of their respective clubs and they may participate fully in these discussions with the other Trustees.
- If a vote is required, they must leave the room for the remaining Trustees to discuss further and vote.
- Club Trustees may not chair a meeting at which there is discussion affecting their respective club.

b. Elected, Co-Opted Trustees

- In the event of a conflict of loyalty or vested interest, the conflicted trustee may stay in a meeting where the conflicted issue is being discussed. They must declare the conflict and may not participate in discussion of the conflicted issue.
- Elected or Co-Opted Trustees, other than those appointed by the clubs, may not represent individual club interests.
- If a vote is needed, they must leave the room for the remaining Trustees to discuss further and vote.
- Conflicted Trustees may not chair a meeting at which there is discussion affecting their conflict or vested interest in the outcome.

In the event of a serious conflict of interest or one within the provisions of (4) above, MPMC will disqualify the conflicted trustee before or after election, appointment or co-option.