

Declarations of interest.

Outlined below is guidance on declarations of interest at Board meetings. This has been produced following a request at the last Blagreaves neighbourhood board meeting.

This is intended as guidance for Board members.

Personal Interests

Board Members have a personal interest in the business of the Neighbourhood Board when it concerns or could reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing of the Board Member, their family member or close associate MORE than it affects the majority of other residents or community groups in the Ward.

This includes matters regarding:

- a person or body who employs the Board Member, their family or associate
- any company in which the Board Member or related person has shares worth £25,000
- any person or body who employs or has appointed the Board Member
- a person or body which has business premises or owns land in the neighbourhood and in which the Board Member holds shares worth £25,000 or 1/100th of the capital share
- any contract which the Board Member, family member or close associate has with the Council for goods, services or works

If a Member has a personal interest then THEY MUST declare it and the nature of the interest before it is discussed or as soon as it becomes apparent to them.

There is an exception to this. This is when the interest is ONLY because the Board Member is a member of, in a position of control over or management of a body

1. exercising functions of a public nature (e.g. if the Board Member has been appointed as a School Governor)

Members declaring a personal interest may still speak on the subject and may vote on any decisions.

Prejudicial Interests

1. The matter affects the Members personal financial interests or relates to a funding or regulatory matter which affects the Member or any of the Member's family or close associates
 - E.g. an application for funding from a body the Board Member has a connection with or an interest

- E.g. considering a planning application or a development issue made by a body or organisation that the Board member has a connection with or an interest
2. A member of the public who knew all the relevant facts would **reasonably think that that the personal interest was so significant that it would prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest.**

If a Member has a prejudicial interest they **MUST**:

- Declare the interest and the nature of the interest as soon as it becomes apparent
- Leave the room **UNLESS** members of the public are allowed to make representations. In this case the Member would have the same rights as a member of the public
- Leave the room immediately once they have finished speaking, or when the meeting decides that they have finished.