



**LOCALISM ACT 2011**

**SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT 2021**

**“OTHER REGISTRABLE INTERESTS”**

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<b>Town/Parish Council</b>	<b>Church Stretton</b>

You must register as an Other Registerable Interest the following (NB you do not need to include interests that relate only to you partner):

<b><u>a) Any unpaid directorships</u></b>	
<b><u>b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority</u></b>	
<b><u>c) any body</u></b>	
<b><u>(i) exercising functions of a public nature</u></b> (Please see notes below)	
<b><u>(ii) directed to charitable purposes or</u></b>	Friends of Church Stretton Library (chair of trustees)
<b><u>(iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management</u></b> (Please see notes below)	

Signed.... [REDACTED] .....

Dated....12/06/22.....

## **Extracts from the LGA Guidance**

(If you are uncertain about anything please contact the Monitoring Officer)

### **What is a “body exercising functions of a public nature”?**

Although it is not possible to produce a definitive list of such bodies, here are some criteria to consider when deciding whether or not a body meets that definition -

- does that body carry out a public service?
- is the body taking the place of local or central government in carrying out the function?
- is the body (including one outsourced in the private sector) exercising a function delegated to it by a public authority?
- is the function exercised under legislation or according to some statutory power?
- can the body be judicially reviewed?

Unless you answer “yes” to one of the above questions, it is unlikely that the body in your case is exercising functions of a public nature. Examples of bodies included in this definition: government agencies, other councils, public health bodies, council-owned companies exercising public functions, arms-length management organisations carrying out housing functions on behalf of a council, school governing bodies.

### **Do local campaigning or Facebook groups need to be registered?**

Membership (which does not include simply being on a mailing list), of local campaign or Facebook groups will only need to be registered if they are bodies of a type set out in paragraphs (C) (i) to (iii) above. Generally, it is unlikely that these groups will be regarded as formal bodies to be registered. However, each case should be considered on its own merits. ‘A Body’ is defined as ‘a number of persons united or organised’. Some groups are very united on their cause and organised, but their purpose must fall under one of the functions listed above. There must also be some formality to the membership, such as registration for example. Simply attending a meeting of a local campaign does not of itself make you a ‘member’ of that organisation.

There has been a growth in organisations which are more nebulous in nature, and no formal membership requirements exist, such as Extinction Rebellion. It can be helpful to ask yourself the question “do I consider I am a member of the organisation” and if the answer is yes, then register the membership for transparency purposes.

### **What about membership of a political party or trade union?**

The second category of other registerable interests refers to membership of a body or being in a position of general control and management of a body, one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy. This includes any political party or trade union. Memberships of political parties and Trade Unions therefore need to be registered. Remember that if because of membership of a political party or a trade union any payment or financial benefit is received, it is likely to come under the Sponsorship category of DPI.

### **“Sensitive interests”**

Where you consider that disclosure of the details of an interest could lead to you, or a person connected with you, being subject to violence or intimidation, and the monitoring officer agrees, if the interest is entered on the register, copies of the register that are made available for inspection and any published version of the register will exclude details of the interest, but may state that you have an interest, the details of which are withheld.