



## Register of Interests

### REGISTER OF INTERESTS FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE TEAM OF VISITSCOTLAND

Name: Ken Neilson

Position: Director of Corporate Services

*Please indicate the nature of your interest for each of the following categories, indicating a nil response if applicable. (See explanatory notes on page 4)*

**1. Remunerated directorships**

Nil

**2. Remunerated employment, office, profession or other activity**

Nil

**3. Commercial connections between activity listed at 1 and 2 above and VisitScotland or its related businesses** (include any membership of VisitScotland Quality Assurance Scheme or an Area Tourist Board, and any supply made to or purchase made from VisitScotland)

Nil

4. **Significant gifts or hospitality arising from position on Board/Executive Team** (to be reported as soon as reasonably practical)

Nil

5. **Shareholdings in a public company which account for more than 1% of the total issued share value of the company.**

Nil

6. **Significant shareholdings in a private company which might give rise to a conflict of interest or trust.**

Nil

7. **Public activity in support of a political party within the previous five years.**

Nil

8. **Miscellaneous, for example, unremunerated posts, public appointments, honorary positions (held on behalf of VisitScotland) and other connections which might give rise to a conflict of interest or trust. Please state whether any positions held are with a Limited Company.**

Director EventScotland Ltd  
Director TourCo Ltd

9. **Relevant and known interests of spouse, partner and close family.**

Nil

**Last updated on : 4 / 06 / 2004**

## Guidance notes

## **General**

The Director of Corporate Services will advise the Chairman when an item on an agenda may lead to a conflict with an interest contained in the register of interests. There may, however, be occasions when an interest that does not require to be notified in this register would lead to a declarable conflict of interest. In such cases members should bring such a conflict to the attention of the meeting.

This register is open to the public.

### **1. Remunerated directorships**

Remunerated directorships should be declared in the case of public companies, detailing the name of the company and the nature of its business. Details of remuneration need not be disclosed. Disclosure should however make clear if the individual is chairman of the company concerned.

In the case of private companies remunerated directorships need only be disclosed where there is potential for a conflict of interest. This does not apply to the Executive Team members who must disclose all remunerated directorships.

Executive Team members must obtain formal Board approval before accepting a remunerated directorship.

### **2. Remunerated employment**

When registering remunerated positions or employment, individuals should record the name of the company and the nature of their position or the services for which they receive remuneration. In the case of a profession in which an individual is non-practising, there is no need to record this unless remuneration is still being received from a partnership or other firm.

Executive Team members must obtain formal Board approval before accepting additional remunerated employment.

### **3. Commercial Connections**

Where the interests registered in sections 1 and 2 above involve the provision of services to institutions or other matters relating to the VisitScotland's business, the name of the client concerned and the nature of the services provided should be disclosed.

### **4. Gifts and hospitality**

Members/staff should not accept any benefits as inducements or rewards for taking any action (or specifically not taking action), or for showing favour (or disfavour) to anyone in their official capacity. Gifts other than of token value should generally be refused. It is accepted that hospitality associated with official business may be appropriate, but offers exceeding this norm should generally be refused. In particular, hospitality in substitution for fees, or inducements which could lead to a contractual relationship between the Board and a supplier or consultant should be avoided.

### **5. Significant shareholdings in public companies**

Holdings, however substantial, that do not account for 1% of the value of the company do not have to be registered.

### **6. Significant interest in private companies**

Interests in private companies only need to be registered where there is a potential conflict of interest with the Council's business. Only significant shareholdings need be registered. As a guide, the rules relating to public companies above should be used to determine whether the interest in the company

is significant. For the Executive Management Team, significant interest in private companies should be declared.

**7. Public activity in support of a political party within the previous five years**

Members of the Board/Executive Team should record:

- a) any office they have held in any political party (or affiliated body) which fields candidates at local or parliamentary elections in any part of the United Kingdom, or in elections to the European Parliament;
- b) whether they have spoken in public support of such a political party;
- c) whether they have stood as candidates in local, parliamentary or European Parliament elections within the previous five years. Office-holding in this connection means offices which are a matter of public record.

**8. Miscellaneous**

This category is for the registration of any other interests not covered above which are considered may be relevant. This will include connections with tourism bodies (for example, membership of an ATB) or other bodies which receive funding from VisitScotland.

**9. Disclosure of family members' interests**

This category applies to any of the above types of interest where it is relevant and the member of the Board or Executive Team knows of the relevant interest. Close family is not defined although it would normally include the interests of children and other family members where the public disclosure of an interest might give rise to a suspicion that some benefit might be gained from knowledge passed on from a member about the work of VisitScotland.