

## **Declaration of Interests for GPhC Associates and Partners Guidance and form**

### **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 The Council recognises that the management of potential conflicts of interest is an essential component of good governance. The GPhC's associates and partners are required to register relevant interests and to declare such interests when appropriate so that those conducting business are aware of them.

### **2.0 Purpose**

2.1 This document is designed to give guidance on what interests should be declared by associates and partners relating to them, or those close to them that could influence, or be seen to influence, their objectivity when making decisions on behalf of the GPhC. Associates and partners must also declare any paid employment or relevant voluntary activity. Associates and partners should err on the side of caution and declare any interests if they are unsure of their relevance.

2.2 We are now also using this form to gather information on relevant professional registration (if any) and currency of practice. As well as ensuring compliance with the requirements of our Rules, this will help us to get a better understanding for the range of skills, sector knowledge and experience that we have available to us across our various associate and partner groups.

### **3.0 Guidance for associates on the declaration of interests**

3.1 You should declare, on the attached form (appendix A), any interests, financial or otherwise, that you, or those close to you, have that could influence, or be seen to influence, decisions that you may take on behalf of the GPhC. If you are in any doubt as to whether or not something represents an interest, you should declare it. You should also declare any activity for which you are paid whether or not the activity relates to the GPhC.

### **4.0 Conflicts of interest**

4.1 There is no explicit exclusion on any specific conflict of interest, for the simple reason that no list could cover all eventualities and would begin to be out of date as soon as it was approved, so we consider it more appropriate to consider potential conflicts on a case-by-case basis. We take as our starting point the provision in the Council Member and Associate Code of Conduct that states: *"Members and associates must demonstrate their duty to the public, unconflicted by loyalties to other organisations, to staff or any personal interest"*. There are no absolute proscriptions, and conflicts will be considered on a case by case basis, but certain combinations, such as, for example, statutory committee members who are also office holders or employees of relevant registrant representative organisations, would normally be considered to face an irreconcilable conflict of interest.

## 5.0 Keeping the register up to date

5.1 Every year associates and partners will be asked to update their declaration of interests by completing and returning the form we will send them, including a nil return if appropriate.

**In the meantime, if you obtain, or realise that you have another interest, you should let the office know straight away, without waiting for the next form to be sent to you.**

## Register of Interests form for Associates and Partners

**Name:** Sara Atkins

**Associate/Partner group:** (e.g. Appeals C'ttee, Visitors etc.) **Statutory Committee**

**Date:**

Please enter any interests that you need to declare (or, if you have no interests in a particular category, please write "Nil") in the appropriate boxes below, in accordance with the accompanying guidance.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

### A. Pecuniary interests – direct

Fee-paid judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Social Entitlement Chamber)
Lay Member (Fitness to Practise) Health and Care Professions Council

This should include but is not restricted to:

- Any activity for which you are paid, whether or not the activity relates to matters concerning the GPhC, such as:
  - full time or part-time employment of any kind, including paid directorships
  - paid offices held
  - self-employment, such as freelance, contract or consultancy work
  - sponsorship, awards, bursaries, research grants etc.
- Ownership of any company, business or consultancy
- Direct beneficial interests or shareholdings in companies or other bodies that could be perceived as relevant to the GPhC (on your own behalf or on behalf of a spouse or infant children)

### B. Pecuniary interests – indirect and relating closely to GPhC activity

Nil

Please list all indirect pecuniary interests arising from connections with bodies which have a direct financial interest in matters concerning the GPhC or from being a business partner of, or being employed by, a person with such an interest.

**C. Non-pecuniary interests**

Nil

Please list all non-pecuniary interests that relate to unpaid office , membership of or involvement in organisations, associations or other bodies which are regulated in any way by the GPhC or whose activities could be perceived as relevant to the GPhC.

**D. Interests of those close to you**

Nil

Please list any financial and non-financial interests of close family members and persons living with you that could be thought of as relevant to GPhC activity.

**E. Professional registration and currency of practice**

If you are registered with a relevant profession (for example, registration as a pharmacist/pharmacy technician; legal or medical qualification/certificate of practice), please tell us what it is, and whether your registration is up to date. As well as ensuring compliance with the requirements of our Rules (in some cases, your position will require you to have a current professional registration - for example, if you hold the position of a registrant member or a legally qualified chair on a statutory committee), this will help us to get a better understanding of the range of skills, sector knowledge and experience that we have available to us across our various associate and partner groups.

*(For those associate groups whose registers of interests are published on our website, as a requirement of the Pharmacy Order 2010):*

Please note that the information gathered in this section will NOT be included in what is published on our website.

Are you currently registered as a professional (any profession)?

**No**  **Yes**

**If No**, have you ever been registered as a professional? If you have, please state what and when you ceased to be registered:

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**If Yes**, please complete the following:

Type of profession (pharmacist/pharmacy technician/lawyer/doctor/other - please specify)	Non-practising solicitor
Registration number (if applicable)	197524
Sector of CURRENT practice (if applicable, for example, in pharmacy, this might be community, hospital, industry, academia etc.)	Not currently practising.
If you are registered as a professional but not currently practising, please tell us when you stopped practising, and what your sector of practice was before then	I worked for a commercial firm ( <i>Dechert</i> ) in the City of London until 2003, I worked as a Legal Editor for <i>Shelter</i> until 2007. I then took a career break until 2013 when I took on a number of judicial and quasi-judicial appointments.

Forms may be returned either electronically or by post, as follows:

(by post) Associates and Partners, General Pharmaceutical Council, 25 Canada Square,  
Canary Wharf, London, E14 5LQ

(by email) [associates&partners@pharmacyregulation.org](mailto:associates&partners@pharmacyregulation.org)