



REQUEST FOR A DISPENSATION TO SPEAK AND/OR VOTE WHERE A MEMBER / CO-OPTED MEMBER HAS A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

The granting of dispensations is a function of the Standards Committee and its Dispensations Sub-Committee. Authority to grant some straightforward applications has also been delegated to the Town Clerk. You are advised to read the policy and guidance on the granting of dispensations before completing this form.

Please complete this form electronically and email it to declarations@cityoflondon.gov.uk. Alternatively, paper forms can be submitted to the Committee and Member Services Team in the Town Clerk's Department, but typed forms should be provided if at all possible. Please submit your application as soon as possible after becoming aware that a dispensation is required.

Name:

Date:

Dispensations available from the Town Clerk

I request a dispensation until the Ward elections in 2021 to enable me:

- to speak and vote on the setting of council tax
- to speak as a member of the public on planning applications
- to speak as a member of the public on licensing applications
- to speak on general housing matters

I understand that I already have these dispensations

Please complete the rest of this form if you are applying for any other dispensation from the Standards Committee

Please describe the nature of the disclosable pecuniary interest that would otherwise prohibit you from speaking and/or voting:

- I confirm that this interest is already included in my register of interests, or
- I confirm that I will register this interest within 28 days

I request a dispensation to enable me to:

speak

vote

on the following matter(s):

any matter which affects my constituents and in which I may have a pecuniary interest except for a matter which:

(a) affects me uniquely or more than any of my constituents; or

(b) insofar as regards a dispensation to vote only, falls within the restriction imposed by section 618 of the Housing Act 1985, for as long as that provision remains on the statute book.

for a specific committee meeting or meetings, or for a specific period, as follows:

Until my current term of office ends in March 2021

Please provide any relevant information in support of your application, including a consideration of the statutory grounds for granting a dispensation (paragraph 13) and the additional factors (Appendix 3) set out in the policy:

The dispensation is not an "unlimited" dispensation. It excludes matters in which I have a greater interest than any of my constituents, because in that case the statutory ground of being "in the interests of persons living in the authority's area" is not satisfied.

The dispensation covers matters in which I have no greater interest than any of my constituents, because in that case the statutory ground is satisfied.

The purpose of the law providing for dispensations to be granted is to enable me to speak or vote for others, notwithstanding my own conflict of interest, in the interest of democracy.

It is more important for me to have a dispensation to vote than to speak, so I can represent my constituents in the making of the decision. Otherwise, the way would be open for members with no local knowledge, interest or mandate to make the decision.

In a case where I can rely on a dispensation, but only a few constituents are equally affected, I should be trusted to use my judgment (or "common sense") as to whether I do so, or whether I do not speak or vote.

A system of specific dispensations applied for individually has proved to be unworkable, because I usually receive only a week's notice of the agenda, and dispensations sub-committee meetings cannot be convened within that time.

The public has signalled its wish for members to have "general" dispensations. A public authority should not ignore its public without good reason.