



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

Requests for dispensations are considered by a Panel of Independent Persons, or by the Monitoring Officer in urgent cases. 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](mailto: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 without reference to the Panel

I request a dispensation until the Ward elections in 2025 to enable me to:

- 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

### Please complete the rest of this form if you are applying for any other dispensation

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

Director & shareholder – G Lawrence Wholesale Meat Co Ltd, Edward Price & Partners Ltd, Village Pork (Smithfield) Ltd  
Director and indirect shareholder – Smithfield Beef Co Ltd, Prestige Meat Ltd  
Chairman, Smithfield Market Tenants' Association (non-pecuniary but material)

- 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):

All matters concerning the London Central Markets (ie Smithfield), other than:

- i. Those in which I have a disclosable pecuniary interest as a shareholder or director of any company which holds a tenancy in the market; and
- ii. Which would affect only me personally or my business interests as opposed to the generality of the tenants within the market.

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

Until the election of Common Councillors to be held in March 2025

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:

N.B. If you are applying for a dispensation to vote please comment specifically on Appendix 3, paragraph (b), points (i)-(iv).

The Court of Common Council has requested that the decision maker “...*adopt a position where members would generally be granted a dispensation to speak (but not vote) on all matters concerning their ward where they have an engaged disclosable pecuniary interest other than when that disclosable pecuniary interest would be directly and materially impacted by a matter to be determined at a meeting of the Court or one of its committees or sub-committees, subject of course to the proper exercise of the statutory discretion in each case.*”

I have been an elected Councillor for the Ward of Farringdon Without, which includes the London Central Markets, since 1994 and have a deep understanding of the Smithfield area having worked at the market for over 40 years. I also believe that local electors voted for me because they believed that I would speak for them on issues affecting their businesses.

My appointment to the Markets Board was debated at Court of Common Council on 21 April 2022 and voted on. Court overwhelmingly approved my appointment.

I believe that the caveat I have placed in my request for a dispensation, which has already been in place for several years – that I would not seek to speak on any matter which directly impacted me or my business interests specifically, as opposed to the generality of market tenants – will ensure that I am not placed in a position where there is a personal conflict of interests.

I consider that my application would fall under the category of “*it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.*”