



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 gemma.stokley@cityoflondon.gov.uk. Alternatively, paper forms can be submitted to the Governance 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 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 only 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:

I am a governor (and Chair of the Board of Governors) at City of London School for Girls (CLSG). My daughter has just started at City Junior School (CJS). The CJS Board of Governors is constituted as a joint sub-committee of the Boards of Governors of City of London School and CLSG, although CJS is a separate school with its own Head. I am not a governor of CJS, but as the Board of CLSG is one of its parent committees, CJS-related items will appear on the agenda of CLSG Board meetings.

- 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):

I request a dispensation to speak (but not vote) on CJS matters that appear on CLSG Board agendas, where there is not a direct pecuniary interest.

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

For the duration of my term as Chair/governor of CLSG.

Please provide any relevant information in support of your application, including a consideration of the statutory grounds for granting a dispensation (paragraph 15) 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).

I am not seeking a dispensation to speak or vote at a CLSG Board meeting on a matter that engages my pecuniary interest in relation to CJS, for example the setting of CJS school fees. In such instances, I would neither speak nor vote.

My proposal is to recuse myself from voting on all CJS-related items on the CLSG agenda, regardless of whether or not there is an obvious pecuniary interest in the item. Where there is a clear pecuniary interest (e.g. setting CJS fees), I would not speak either.

However, from time to time CJS items may appear on CLSG Board meeting agendas, where a pecuniary link is less obvious, but where it could be argued that Governor decisions may nonetheless impact indirectly on school fees (e.g. as the parent Committee, CLSG agreeing CJS capital works programs). For these, it may prove difficult not to be able to speak at all, for example where for reasons of coordinating policy between schools a CJS item may overlap with or mirror CLSG specific issues.

As such, as a precautionary measure I seek dispensation at CLSG meetings to be able to speak (but not vote) on CJS-related items where there is no clear pecuniary interest.

It should be noted that CJS matters make up only a small proportion of CLSG agenda items.

Please see the accompanying Agenda pages for the most recent meetings of CLSG. CLSG Agendas ordinarily include between fifteen and twenty items, with a maximum of two of these relating to CJS. There is usually an update on CJS, in the form of the minutes of its most recent meeting with a report from its Head, and financial updates on CJS. The update is usually presented for information and the Board receives a recommendation from the CJS Board where any decisions are made on its Budget. CJS matters are usually discussed for a maximum of ten minutes and often fewer. No items were presented on CJS at the most recent meeting of the CLSG Board.

The Boards of Governors of the City of London School and of CLSG appoint three members respectively to the Board of CJS, with the Chairs or Deputy Chairs holding an ex officio role.

This permits scrutiny by the Boards of both schools without the business of CJS requiring a significant amount of time at the meetings of the Boards of CLS and CLSG. I have not taken my ex officio place at CJS (as Chair of the Board of CLSG) since my daughter enrolled as a pupil at CJS.