

Conflicts: Interest or Loyalty

Definition: A conflict of interest, or conflict of loyalty, is any situation where a committee members personal interests or interest they owe to another person or body may influence their decision making.

See Charity Commission Guidance on CONFLICT OF INTEREST (CC29) including conflict of loyalty.

Conflicts of Interest or Loyalty that could arise in the context of a Fundraising Committee Meeting include:

- A member of the Finance Committee also holding a Board or Committee role for a grantee or donor advised organisation that could influence a decision e.g. being involved in an organisation short-listed as an HRAD/RS winner who would receive funds from NIF UK.
- Fundraising for another organisation in a voluntary or professional capacity with donor overlap e.g. the Fundraising Committee member has been involved in soliciting funds from a major NIF donor for another organisation.
- Recommending a product/service wholly or partially owned by yourself, a family member or close friend.

Action required:

The normal procedure is for the meeting Chair to ask those in attendance, at the beginning of the meeting, if there are any conflicts of interest; at which point anyone who feels they have a conflict of interest in regard to any items on the agenda, should declare such conflict; and it will be minuted.

If they know about it before the meeting, they can inform the Committee Chair. Particularly if it's complex. Otherwise, it can simply be declared at the meeting.

If during a discussion in the meeting, someone is concerned that they have a conflict in relation to the matter being discussed, they should raise their hand and declare the conflict. The Chair can either note it OR ask the person to recuse themselves from the particular discussion. This will be recorded in the minutes.