



# REGISTER OF INTERESTS

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

13 AUGUST 2012

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with the background to the changes in the Register of Interests requirement.

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**No. DETAIL**

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**1) INTRODUCTION**

The Localism Act 2011 introduced two new requirements in the Register of Interests for Members: the inclusion of details of any pecuniary interests of Members' partners and the publication of the completed Registers on the web sites of both the Isle of Wight Council and the Town Council.

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**2) LOCALISM ACT 2011: SECTION 29**

a) This section of the Act is the one that deals with the requirement for publication of the Registers on the web sites of both Councils.

b) Section 29:

*(6) The monitoring officer of a relevant authority that is a parish council must—*

*(a) secure that a copy of the parish council's register is available for inspection at a place in the principal authority's area at all reasonable hours,*

*(b) secure that the register is published on the principal authority's website, and*

*(c) provide the parish council with any data it needs to comply with subsection (7).*

*(7) A parish council must, if it has a website, secure that its register is published on its website.*

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**3) LOCALISM ACT 2011: SECTION 30**

a) This section of the Act is the one that deals with the requirement for the inclusion of the interests of partners.

b) *(1) A member or co-opted member of a relevant authority must, before the end of 28 days beginning with the day on which the person becomes a member or co-opted member of the authority, notify the authority's monitoring officer of any disclosable pecuniary interests which the person has at the time when the notification is given.*

*(2) Where a person becomes a member or co-opted member of a relevant authority as a result of re-election or re-appointment, subsection (1) applies only as regards disclosable pecuniary interests not entered in the authority's register when the notification is given.*

*(3) For the purposes of this Chapter, a pecuniary interest is a "disclosable pecuniary interest" in relation to a person ("M") if it is of a description specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State and either—*

*(a) it is an interest of M's, or*

*(b) it is an interest of—*

*(i) M's spouse or civil partner,*

*(ii) a person with whom M is living as husband and wife, or*

*(iii) a person with whom M is living as if they were civil partners,*

*and M is aware that that other person has the interest.*

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**4) CONCERNS**

a) Concerns have been expressed about both of these new requirements including by partners of Members whose privacy is being invaded through actions taken by others.

b) The Town Council might want to take a view as to whether it should act on those concerns. Meanwhile Members should complete the Register as far as they feel able and a copy is attached with this Report for that purpose.

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