

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL AND NORTHUMBERLAND TOWN/
PARISH/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Members' and Co-opted Members'
Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests**

Councillor/Co-opted Member's Full Name: <u>Melissa Cowens</u>	
Address: <u>18, Brierley gardens, Otterburn</u> <u>Newcastle-upon-Tyne</u> <u>NE19 1HB</u>	
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE SERVICES DEPT. 05 JUN 2017 RECEIVED	

Declaration:

I, MELISSA COWENS (print name), the
Councillor/Co-opted Member for Otterburn Parish Council
(county council electoral division or town/parish/community council (and ward, if applicable), give
notice that I have set out my interests below in the appropriate areas and have put 'NONE' where I
have no such interest in any area.

I understand and acknowledge that:-

1. I must complete, sign and return this form within 28 days of my election or appointment to office. I understand that I must register my disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests by providing written notification to the Council's Monitoring Officer of the details required as set out in this form.
2. If my circumstances change I must, within 28 days of becoming aware of any changes to my interests, provide written notification to the Monitoring Officer of that change.
3. Disclosable pecuniary interests include not only my interests but also the interests of my spouse or civil partner, a person with whom I am living as husband or wife or a person with whom I am living as if they were a civil partner, so far as I am aware of the interests of that person.
4. The Localism Act 2011 created specific criminal offences in relation to the disclosure of pecuniary interests (Part 1 of this form). I understand it is a criminal offence to:-
 - (a) Fail to register a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) I am aware of within 28 days of my election or re-election;

- (b) Take part in the debate or vote at any meeting where I have a registered or unregistered DPI;
- (c) Fail to declare at a meeting and/or take part in the debate or vote if I am aware I have a DPI which is not yet registered or notified to the Monitoring Officer;
- (d) Fail to register unregistered DPIs that I have declared at meetings within 28 days of that declaration;
- (e) Provide false or misleading information in relation to any registration or be reckless as to its accuracy;
- (f) Take any steps or further action as a councillor on a matter in which I have a DPI other than referring it elsewhere;

in each case without reasonable excuse; and I recognise any such failure is a direct contravention of the Localism Act 2011 and a criminal offence; and may be investigated by the Police and referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. I understand that upon conviction a Member or co-optee may be fined up to a maximum of £5,000.

5. If I feel I have an interest which, if disclosed on a public register, could lead to myself or a person connected to me being subject to violence or intimidation, then, with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer, that interest may be considered to be a sensitive interest and the details of that interest will not be included in any copy of the register that is made available for inspection or in any published version of the register.

Notes for completion of form:

Please:

- *Print single-sided*
- *Do not staple pages together*
- *Use black ink or black font*
- *In the second and third columns, enter the Interest, or write 'none' or 'not applicable', as appropriate*
- *Sign and date the back of the final page of this form.*

*The Register of Interests is maintained by the Monitoring Officer in accordance with Section 29 of the Localism Act 2011 ("the Act"). **If you require any assistance as to how to complete this document, or if you wish to identify an interest as 'Sensitive', please contact the Monitoring Officer Liam Henry, (Liam.Henry@northumberland.gov.uk / 01670 623324), or Principal Lawyer Helen Lancaster, (Helen.Lancaster@northumberland.gov.uk / 01670 623323).***

1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Please answer all parts of this form. You must enter information in every box. If you do not have an interest in a particular question please put "None". All of your interests must be properly recorded in the appropriate areas.

Please provide details of :-

Member's name: Melissa Cowens	NCC Electoral Division or Town/Parish/Community Council: Osterburn	
Disclosable pecuniary interests	You	Your spouse or civil partner, a person with whom you are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if they were a civil partner
(a) Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.	None	
(b) Sponsorship Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your Council) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. <i>**"relevant period" means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which you complete this form for the purposes of section 30(1) or section 31(7) of the Act;</i>	NONE	

<p>(c) Contracts</p> <p>Any contract which is made between you (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest, which includes all companies of which you are a director) and the Council -</p> <p>(i) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(ii) which has not been fully discharged.</p> <p>This includes all contracts between the Council and you or your spouse or partner etc or any company of which you or your spouse or partner etc is a director.</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>(d) Land</p> <p>Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the Council.</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>(e) Licences</p> <p>Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>(f) Corporate tenancies</p> <p>Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) —</p> <p>(i) the landlord is the Council; and</p> <p>(ii) the tenant is a body in which you (or your spouse, partner etc) has a beneficial interest.</p> <p>This includes all tenancies between the Council and any company of which the member (or spouse, partner etc) is a director.</p>	<p>None</p>	

(g) Securities

Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—

(i) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and

(ii) either—

- a. the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
- b. if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

None

*'Securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

2. Other Interests

Please answer all parts of this form. You must enter information in every box. If you do not have an interest in a particular question please put "None". All of your interests must be properly recorded in the appropriate areas.

Please note this section only means your interests and not those of your spouse, partner etc.

Please provide details of your membership of, or your occupation of a position of general control or management in any: -

<p>(a) Any body of which the member is in a position of general control or management and to which he/she is appointed or nominated by the Council;</p> <p><i>Example: Any outside organisation that you have been appointed to by your Council.</i></p>	None
<p>(b) Any body exercising functions of a public nature;</p> <p><i>Example: School Governors</i></p>	None
<p>(c) Any body directed to or which has charitable purposes;</p> <p><i>Example: National Trust, RSPCA</i></p> <p>NB: It should be noted that the term "any body directed to or which has charitable purposes" can include organisations which do not fall within the legal definition of a charity. If you have any queries as to whether you need to register an interest in this (or any other category) then please speak to the Monitoring Officer.</p>	None
<p>(d) Any body one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which the member of the Council is a member or in a position of general control or management;</p> <p><i>Example: Political Party, Trade Union</i></p>	None
<p>(e) Any person/organisation from whom you have received within the previous three years gifts or hospitality worth more than an estimated value of £50 which you have received by virtue of your office.</p>	None