

## Lung Cancer Nursing UK (hereafter LCNUK) Conflict of Interest Policy

Conflicts of interest may arise where an individual's personal (or family) interests and / or loyalties conflict with those of LCNUK. Such conflicts may create problems such as:

- Inhibits free discussion
- Results in decisions or actions taken that are not in the best interests of LCNUK
- Risks causing the impression that LCNUK has acted improperly

Where LCNUK is concerned, the links and interests of most concern relate to the pharmaceutical industry and other organisations in the lung cancer, mesothelioma and palliative care field. The aim of this policy is to protect both the LCNUK and individuals involved from any impropriety or appearance of impropriety.

The purposes of this policy are to protect the integrity of the LCNUK decision-making process, to enable our stakeholders to have confidence in our integrity, and to protect the integrity and reputation of those working within the organisation.

All LCNUK committee members, trustees and those co-opted to specific roles within the organisation will strive to avoid any conflict between the interests of LCNUK on the one hand, and personal, professional, and business interests on the other. This includes avoiding actual conflicts of interest as well as the perception of conflicts of interest.

Examples of conflicts of interest include:

- 1 A trustee/committee member who is also a member who must decide whether fees from members should be increased.
- 2 A trustee/committee member who works regularly for a specific pharmaceutical company as a speaker or consultant and there is a decision to be taken on whether the LCNUK wishes to take on an educational project with that company
- 3 A trustee/committee member who is also on the committee of another organisation that is competing for the same funding.
- 4 A trustee/committee member who has shares in a business that may be awarded a contract to do work or is offered a limited availability workshop at the annual conference of the LCNUK

Upon appointment each trustee and committee member will make a full, written disclosure of interests, such as relationships, and posts held, that could potentially result in a conflict of interest. This written disclosure will be kept on file and will be updated annually or more frequently as appropriate.

In the course of meetings or activities, trustees/committee members will disclose any interests in a transaction or decision where there may be a conflict between LCNUK's best interests and the trustee's/committee member's best interests or a conflict between the best interests of the two organisations that the trustee/committee member is involved with.

After disclosure, a trustee/committee member may be asked to leave the room for the discussion and may not be able to take part in the decision, depending on the judgement of the other trustees present at that time.

Any such disclosure and the subsequent actions taken will be noted in the minutes.

All Trustees and Committee members must submit an [annual declaration form](#) when requested by the Operations Teams within the timescales specified.

The trustees of LCNUK will undertake an annual review of the list of conflicts of interest as part of its risk management policy

This policy is meant to supplement good judgment, and all committee members, co-opted officers and trustees should respect its spirit as well as its wording.

**Reviewed by LCNUK Committee: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Approved by LCNUK Trustees: 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Date of Next Review: December 2025**

