

THE SIR JULES THORN CHARITABLE TRUST

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY

- The following sets out principles for minimising and managing potential conflicts of interest for individuals involved in the Trust's decision-making. Thus it applies to Trustees, to senior staff and to the Trust's medical advisors.

WHY WE HAVE A POLICY

- Trustees and staff have a legal obligation to act in the best interests of the Trust, and in accordance with the governing document.
- Conflicts of interest may arise where an individual's personal or family interests and/or loyalties conflict with those of the Trust. Such conflicts may
 - inhibit free discussion;
 - result in decisions or actions which are not in the interests of the Trust; and
 - risk the impression that the Trust has acted improperly.
- The aim of this policy is to protect both the Trust and the individuals involved from any appearance of impropriety.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- Individuals are required to declare any interest in grant applications which could give rise to a conflict with their role as a Trustee, advisor or member of staff.
- Any gifts or hospitality received in connection with their roles should, similarly, be declared.

MANAGING CONFLICTS

- Individuals should not be involved in decisions where they have a conflict of interest. Where, in the opinion of the Chairman of the Trust, or of the Medical Advisory Committee, any declared interest creates such a conflict, the individual concerned must not participate in discussions relating to the grant application, or vote in the decision-making process.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- The following reflects the Trust's policy on Conflicts of Interest.

Code of Conduct for Members of the Medical Advisory Committee

1. Committee members are covered by the Trust's policy on conflicts of interest and are required to declare any interest that could give rise to a conflict with their role as a member of the Trust's Committee. Where, in the opinion of the Committee's Chairman, any declared interest creates such a conflict, the member concerned must not participate in discussions relating to the grant application, or vote in the decision-making process.
2. The following are strictly confidential:-
 - decision-making and the Committee's discussion (including the reasons for decisions to fund or not to fund)
 - the contents of papers and correspondence relating to applications for funds, funding policy and site visits
 - the identity of reviewers/referees
3. Members must not discuss applications and/or reasons for decisions with applicants. Feedback to applicants will be provided as appropriate by Trust staff in accordance with the Trust's current practice.