

PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY

Conflicts of Interest Policy

Purpose of the policy:

1. To protect the Prostate Cancer Research Centre (PCRC) against conflicts of interest that may be detrimental to its activities.

The charity believes that those who work on behalf of a charity should not be enabled to make a personal profit as a result of that work, for example, by using information confidential to the charity for personal gain.

2. To protect PCRC against conflicts of interest that may arise as a result of the positions, both internal and external, held by individuals who contribute to PCRC's work in their area of specialisation.
3. To protect PCRC and those individuals covered by this policy against impropriety or the appearance of impropriety, including reputational risk.

Membership of the Scientific Committee

Specialists in appropriate fields are identified by the committee Chairman and approached with a view to becoming panel members.

Discussion of applications outside meetings

- Save in exceptional circumstances, a Scientific Committee member must not, prior to a meeting of that Committee, discuss any application which is to be considered at that meeting with any other Committee member responsible for reviewing that application. If a Committee member does have any such discussion, this must be reported to the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee at or before the start of the meeting.
- Members of the Scientific Committee who are approached by individuals or organisations for advice on a specific funding proposal or on the preparation, status or outcome of their specific applications should always refer all such enquiries to the relevant staff members of the Foundation.

Exclusion from grant decisions

- Individual members of the Committee must not be in the room if a Grant proposal with which they are connected is discussed. They may not take part in any decisions taken in relation to such a grant proposal, and should not receive any papers relating to it
- An individual will be connected with a grant proposal in any of the following cases, if the individual is:
 - a. The sole applicant;
 - b. A joint applicant in collaboration with others or is a named collaborator;

- c. A relative of one of the grant applicants. "Relative" for this purpose includes, but is not limited to spouse (or partner), children, siblings and parents;
 - d. A business partner of one of the grant applicants; or
 - e. A member or employee of the same University, or other institution, as one of the grant applications.
- If an individual is in any doubt as to the relevance of an interest that he or she has, such interest should be disclosed to the Secretary before the meeting or, if not practicable, as soon as the potential conflict becomes apparent at the meeting. The Secretary will consult as necessary and the Chairman and Secretary shall determine whether the individual should absent himself or herself from the relevant part of the meeting.
 - The Chairman should decide on any potential conflict of interest involving the Secretary.