

Conflicts of Interest Policy

To maintain and enhance the reputation of the British Toxicology Society (BTS) as an independent, professional organisation, it is critical that all its activities are, and are perceived to be, free from commercial or personal interests.

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

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

The aim of this policy is to protect both the BTS and individuals involved, from any impropriety or appearance of impropriety.

It is the responsibility of each Committee/Subcommittee member at each meeting to declare any particular interest that may seem to present a conflict with a particular agenda item. At the discretion of the Chair, that individual may be asked to recuse his or herself from discussion on that item or, even leave the room while it is discussed. Where this occurs, it should be recorded in the meeting minutes.

If an enquiry is received from any source about a potential Conflict of Interest by any Committee member, the enquirer will be asked to make the request in writing to the President who will follow it up with the Chair of the Committee and the individual member concerned. A response will be given within a reasonable period.