MPM Group
Your Plan | Your Way

Client Advisory Group

Conflict of Interest Explainer

A conflict of interest happens when a personal interest, relationship or connection could influence your ability to give fair, honest, or unbiased feedback in the Client Advisory Group.

Sometimes, a conflict may appear to exist, even if it does not actually influence you. This is called a perceived conflict of interest, and it is still important to tell us about it.

It could be:

- Something that benefits you, your family, or your friends.
- A business or job you are connected to.
- A personal opinion or relationship that could make people think you are not being fair.

Even if you do not think it is a problem, if it looks like it could be, that is still a conflict of interest.

Examples:

- You own or work for a business that might be talked about in the group.
- A close friend or family member works in the topic area being discussed.
- You could make money or gain something if the group makes a recommendation.

What you need to do

1. **Tell us** – if you think you might have a conflict, let the Facilitator or Project Officer know.
2. **Be open** – declare any conflicts as soon as you are aware of them, including during a meeting if something comes up.
3. **Step back if needed** – in some cases, you may be asked not to participate in a particular discussion.

Remember:
It is okay to have a conflict of interest. What matters is that you say it clearly and early, so it can be managed fairly.

Why it matters

- It keeps the group fair and safe.
- It makes sure everyone's voice is equal.
- It protects your reputation and the group's reputation.

Keeping a record of conflicts

If you tell us about a conflict of interest, we'll keep a confidential record of it.

- The record will include details of the conflict and any actions taken, if needed.
- This information will only be accessed by the Facilitator and relevant MPM Group representatives.