

National Park Authority

Audit & Risk Committee Meeting

Agenda Item 13



Register of Interests Review

Paper for noting

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to advise members of the outcome of a review of senior staff and Board members register of interests completed as part of the Annual Accounts preparation process. Any material payment or transaction with a third party organisation requires separate disclosure as a 'related party transaction' in the Annual Accounts.

This review relates only to organisations where several factors are combined:

- 1.1 A Board member or a senior staff member has declared an interest in the organisation (either personally or through a close member of their family);
- 1.2 Control and influence:
 - 1.2.1 The organisation identified is controlled or jointly controlled by the person identified above OR
 - 1.2.2 The person identified has significant influence over the organisation or is a member of the key management personnel OR
 - 1.2.3 The entity provides key management personnel services to the Authority;
- 1.3 There has been a transfer of resources, services or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged.

2. Recommendation

Members are asked to note this report.

3. Contribution to Our 5 Year Plan

This process is part of good governance which supports achievement of Our 5 Year Plan by ensuring that we maintain high ethical standards.

4. Outcome of the review process

- 4.1 Officers reviewed the Register of Interests of the Executive Team and Board Members and cross-referenced these to the financial records of the Authority to establish any interests where a financial payment has been made to a third party organisation by the Authority.

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- 4.2 The process has been improved in the current year to track all changes in the register of interest throughout the year and check on all interests for the period.
- 4.3 The Convenor, James Stuart, was the Managing Director of Entrepreneurial Scotland until 31 October 2018. The Convenor, James Stuart was the Managing Director of Entrepreneurial Scotland until 31 October 2018. During 2018/19, the Authority paid £4,200 for business membership, which allows access to events and career and leadership development opportunities. This is for the year to 30 September 2019, and as such £2,100 has been prepaid. In addition, £708 that was prepaid at 31 March 2018 was incurred for conference attendance in April 2018.

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