

Conflicts of Interest Code

In this Code 'you' refers to individuals and bodies regulated by the *CLC*; all individuals and bodies regulated by the CLC must comply with this Code. You must not permit anyone else to act or fail to act in such a way as to amount to a breach of this Code.

Outcomes-Focused

The **Code of Conduct** requires you to deliver the following **Outcomes**:

- Each Client's best interests are served; (Outcome 3.1)
- Clients have the information they need to make informed decisions; (Outcome 3.3)
- Clients are aware of any limitation or any condition resulting from your relationship with another party. (Outcome 3.5)

The prevention, detection and mitigation of *conflicts of interest*s help you deliver these *Outcomes* and act in a principled way:

- 1. Act with Independence and Integrity. (Overriding Principle 1)
- 2. Act in the best interests of your Clients. (Overriding Principle 3)
- You keep the interests of the *Client* paramount (except as required by the law or the *CLC*'s regulatory arrangements). (CoC P3b)
- 4. You do not act for a *Client* where you judge it is not in their best interest for you to do so. (*CoC* 3c)
- 5. You do not accept instructions from a person nor continue to act for a *Client* whose interests conflict directly with your own, the entity's, or another *Client*. (*CoC* P3d)

You must also comply with the following *specific requirements*:

- 6. Where the entity represents parties with different interests in any transaction each party is at all times represented by different *Authorised Persons* conducting themselves in the matter as though they were members of different entities. (*CoC* P3n)
- 7. Before or when accepting instructions to act for a second *Client* you inform each *Client* in writing that the body has been asked to act for another *Client* in the same matter and you explain the relevant issues and risks to them.
- 8. You only act for both *Client*s if each *Client* has provided informed written consent that you may act for another *Client* in the matter.
- 9. You do not act, or do not continue to act, for a *Client* where your ability to give independent advice is in any way restricted. This may arise if:
 - (a) you owe separate duties to act in the best interests of two or more *client*s in relation to the same or related matters, and those duties conflict, or there is a significant risk that those duties may conflict; or
 - (b) your duty to act in the best interests of any *client* in relation to a matter conflicts, or there is a significant risk that it may conflict, with your own interests in relation to that or a related matter.
- 10. If a conflict arises which was or should have been foreseen, you do not charge either *Client* a fee for the work undertaken (other than for *disbursements* properly incurred).
- 11. As an exception to requirement 6, and provided no conflict of interest arises, if you are a body with only one *Authorised Person* you may act for more than one *Client* where one of the *Client*s is a lender providing mortgages in the normal course of its business activities.

Should you require information on how to meet your responsibilities under this Code, please see the *CLC*'s *Conflicts of Interest Guidance*.