

## Veterinary inspector conflict of interest declaration form

The RCVS [Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinary Surgeons](#) and its [supporting guidance](#) requires that veterinary surgeons provide independent and impartial advice, which includes, generally speaking, avoiding real or perceived conflicts of interest.

When considering conflicts of interest in relation to riding establishments, for example, where a riding establishment owner/manager/staff member is a friend or relative, or a client of the inspector's practice, veterinary surgeons should have reference to:

1. [Code](#) obligation 2.2.
2. [Chapter 21](#) of the supporting guidance (Principle 2 in particular).
3. RESC Riding establishment guidelines for ([England](#)) and ([Scotland and Wales](#)).

In **exceptional circumstances**, for example, where a local authority has been unable to secure an alternative inspector, with the local authority's approval, an inspector may proceed where a conflict of interest exists.

Where this is the case, the inspector should also check that the riding establishment is content to proceed and complete this declaration form.

Once signed, a copy should be retained by the inspector before being sent to the local authority with the remainder of the inspection documents. The riding establishment should also be sent a copy for its records.

**Please note:** As per Principle 6 of the 10 Principles of Certification, veterinary surgeons should complete certificates using a means which does not lend itself to alteration, or additions, by another party after the certificate has been issued. This declaration form should therefore not be circulated as an editable document, once signed.

I have been asked to inspect:

**Riding establishment name:**

On behalf of:

**Local authority:**

On:

**Date of inspection:**

I declare the following conflict(s) of interest (strike out where appropriate):

<b>Personal:</b> <i>(Provide brief details, for example, riding establishment owner/manager/staff member is a friend/relative.)</i>	
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<b>Professional/Commercial:</b> <i>(Provide brief details, for example, riding establishment is my client/client of my practice and has been since...)</i>	
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I have informed the local authority, and it has confirmed it has been unable to secure an alternative inspector and would like me to inspect.

I have also informed the riding establishment which is content to proceed.

I understand that the local authority is my client for the purposes of this inspection. I confirm that I will provide independent and impartial advice in line with my obligations under the *Code of Professional Conduct* and will certify facts and opinions honestly and with due care. I understand that failure to do so could be treated as a professional conduct concern and investigated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) and/or result in my removal from the [Inspectorate](#) by the RESC.

<b>Veterinary inspector's name:</b>	
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<b>MRCVS Number:</b>	
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<b>Address:</b>	
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<b>Signature:</b>	
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