

Wellington Town Council

Publication Scheme



This publication scheme commits an authority to make information available to the public as part of its normal business activities. The information covered is included in the classes of information mentioned below, where this information is held by the authority. Additional assistance is provided to the definition of these classes in sector specific guidance manuals issued by the Information Commissioner.

The scheme commits an authority:

- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information, including environmental information, which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications below.
- To specify the information which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications below.
- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information in line with the statements contained within this scheme.
- To produce and publish the methods by which the specific information is made routinely available so that it can be easily identified and accessed by members of the public.
- To review and update on a regular basis the information the authority makes available under this scheme.
- To produce a schedule of any fees charged for access to information which is made proactively available.
- To make this publication scheme available to the public.

Classes of Information & Schedule of Fees

All of the following information is available free of charge on the website, or in hard copy format at a cost of £1.00 per item. Certain items are also posted on the Town's notice board opposite the Library.

- | |
|--|
| <p>1. Who we are and what we do: Organisational information, locations and contacts, constitutional and legal governance. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who's who on the Council and its Committees• Contact details for Parish Clerk and Council members• Location of main Council office and accessibility details• Staffing structure |
| <p>2. What we spend and how we spend it: Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, tendering, procurement and contracts. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual return form and report by auditor• Finalised budget• Precept• Financial Standing Orders and Regulations• Grants given and received• List of current contracts awarded and value of contract• Members' allowances and expenses |

<p>3. What our priorities are and how we are doing: Strategy and performance information, plans, assessments, inspections and reviews. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report to Parish or Community Meeting • Local charters drawn up in accordance with DCLG guidelines
<p>4. How we make decisions: Policy proposals and decisions. Decision making processes, internal criteria and procedures, consultations. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timetable of meetings • Agendas of meetings • Minutes of meetings (NB this will exclude information that is properly regarded as private to the meeting) • Responses to consultation papers • Responses to planning applications
<p>5. Our policies and procedures: Current written protocols for delivering our functions and responsibilities. For example:</p> <p>Policies and procedures for the conduct of council business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural standing orders • Committee and sub-committee terms of reference • Delegated authority in respect of officers • Code of Conduct • Policy statements <p>Policies and procedures for the provision of services and about the employment of staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety policy • Policies and procedures for handling requests for information • Complaints procedures (including those covering requests for information and operating the publication scheme) • Data protection policies • Schedule of charges (for the publication of information)
<p>6. Lists and Registers: Information held in registers required by law and other lists and registers relating to the functions of the authority. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any publicly available register or list • Assets Register • Register of members' interests • Register of gifts and hospitality
<p>7. The Services we Offer: Advice and guidance, booklets and leaflets, transactions and media releases. A description of the services offered. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating, litter bins, clocks, memorials and lighting • Bus shelters • Public conveniences

The classes of information will not generally include:

- Information the disclosure of which is prevented by law, or exempt under the Freedom of Information Act, or is otherwise properly considered to be protected from disclosure.
- Information in draft form.
- Information that is no longer readily available as it is contained in files that have been placed in archive storage, or is difficult to access for similar reasons.

The method by which information published under this scheme will be made available

The authority will indicate clearly to the public what information is covered by this scheme and how it can be obtained.

Where it is within the capability of a public authority, information will be provided on a website. Where it is impracticable to make information available on a website or when an

individual does not wish to access the information by the website, a public authority will indicate how information can be obtained by other means and provide it by those means.

In exceptional circumstances some information may be available only by viewing in person. Where this manner is specified, contact details will be provided. An appointment to view the information will be arranged within a reasonable timescale.

Information will be provided in the language in which it is held or in such other language that is legally required. Where an authority is legally required to translate any information, it will do so.

Obligations under disability and discrimination legislation and any other legislation to provide information in other forms and formats will be adhered to when providing information in accordance with this scheme.

Charges which may be made for information published under this scheme

The purpose of this scheme is to make the maximum amount of information readily available at minimum inconvenience and cost to the public. Charges made by the authority for routinely published material will be justified and transparent and kept to a minimum.

Material which is published and accessed on a website will be provided free of charge.

Charges may be made for information subject to a charging regime specified by Parliament.

Charges may be made for actual disbursements incurred such as:

- photocopying
- postage and packaging
- the costs directly incurred as a result of viewing information

Charges may also be made for information provided under this scheme where they are legally authorised, they are in all the circumstances, including the general principles of the right of access to information held by public authorities, justified and are in accordance with a published schedule or schedules of fees which is readily available to the public.

If a charge is to be made, confirmation of the payment due will be given before the information is provided. Payment may be requested prior to provision of the information.

Written Requests

Information held by a public authority that is not published under this scheme can be requested in writing, when its provision will be considered in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Contact Details

Mr Howard Perkins, Town Clerk

—or—

Ms Anni B Potts, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Wellington Town Council
Civic Offices
Larkin Way
Tan Bank
Wellington
Telford TF1 1LX

Telephone: 01952 567697
eMail: wellingtontowncouncil@telford.gov.uk
www.wellington-shropshire.gov.uk