



THE IVERS

PARISH COUNCIL

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CODE OF RECOMMENDED PRACTICE ON DATA TRANSPARENCY

Introduction

1. This Code is issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local government in exercise of his powers under Section 2 of the Local Government, Planning and Land act 1980 to issue a code of Recommended Practice (the Code) as to the publication of information by local authorities about the discharge of their functions and other matters which he considers to be related.
2. The Code sets out the principles for local authorities in creating greater transparency through the publication of public data. The Code does not replace or supersede the existing legal framework for access to public sector information provided by the
 - Freedom of Information Act 2000
 - Environmental Information Regulations 2004
 - Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005
 - Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE) Regulations 2009 and
 - Sections 25 and 26 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 which provides rights for persons to inspect a local authority's accounting records and supporting documentation, and to make copies of them.

Following this Code should help local authorities to meet these obligations to achieve the routine publication of more data to enhance accountability to the public.

3. The Code applies in England only.
4. The Code applies to parish councils which have a gross annual income and expenditure of over £200,000.

Implications

The Code states that as a minimum the data which should be released to the public will include:

- Expenditure over £500; (including costs, supplier and transaction information)
- Senior employee salaries, names (with employee's consent), job description, budgets and numbers of staff. (Senior employee salaries is defined as salaries which are above £58,200)
- An organisational chart of the Staff structure including salary bands and current vacancies
- Councillors allowances and expenses.
- Grants to the voluntary community and social enterprise sector should be clearly itemised and listed.
- Policies, performance, external audits and key inspections and key indicators on the authorities' fiscal and financial position.

- The location of public land and building assets and key attribute information that is normally recorded on asset registers
- Data of democratic running of the local authority including the constitution, election results, committee minutes, decision-making processes and records of decisions

This should be made available electronically

Proposals to be adopted by The Ivers Parish Council

Senior employee salaries not applicable

To provide the following information on the parish web site in PDF format

- To list all expenditure over £500 quarterly (including costs, supplier and transaction information)
- To publish organisational chart
- Grants to the voluntary community and social enterprise sector should be clearly itemised and published annually
- List of policies adopted by The Ivers Parish Council
- Copy of external auditors reports
- Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
- Agendas and minutes of Committees and Council meetings

Adopted 28th November 2018 (PF&GP item 70)