



## **Freedom of Information**

The model publication scheme has been prepared and approved by the Information Commissioner. It may be adopted without modification by any public authority without further approval and will be valid until further notice.

This model publication scheme commits an authority, in this case Sampford Courtenay Parish Council(SCPC), 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 on page 2.
- To specify the information which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications on page 2.
- 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**

### **Who we are and what we do**

Organisational information, locations and contacts, constitutional and legal governance.

### **What we spend and how we spend it**

Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, tendering, procurement, and contracts.

### **What our priorities are and how we are doing**

Strategy and performance information, plans, assessments, inspections, and reviews.

### **How we make decisions**

Policy proposals and decisions. Decision making processes, internal criteria and procedures, consultations.

### **Our policies and procedures**

Current written protocols for delivering our functions and responsibilities.

### **Lists and registers**

Information held in registers required by law and other lists and registers relating to the functions of the authority.

### **The services we offer**

Advice and guidance, booklets and leaflets, transactions, and media releases. A description of the services offered.

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 (see pages 5-8).

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.

## Information available from SCPC under the Model Publication Scheme

Information to be published	How/where can the information be obtained	Cost – refer to schedule on page 9
<b>Class 1 - Who we are and what we do</b> (Organisational information, structures, locations and contacts)  This will be current information only	Hard copy or website	
Who's who on the Council and its Committees	Hard copy or website	
Contact details for Parish Clerk and Council members (named contacts where possible with telephone number and email address (if used). Clerk's Office based address.	Hard copy or website	
<b>Class 2 – What we spend and how we spend it</b> (Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, procurement, contracts and financial audit)  Current and previous financial year as a minimum	Hard copy or website	
Annual return form and report by auditor	Hard copy or website	
Finalised budget	Hard copy or website	
Precept	Hard copy or website	
Financial Standing Orders and Regulations	Hard copy or website	
Grants given and received	Hard copy or website	

<b>Class 3 – What our priorities are and how we are doing</b>  (Strategies and plans, performance indicators, audits, inspections, and reviews)	Hard copy or website	
Parish Plan (current and previous year as a minimum)	Hard copy or website	
Council Action Plan	Hard copy or website	
Annual Report to Annual Parish Meeting,	Hard copy or website	
Foundation Award Parish Council Scheme	Hard copy or website	
<b>Class 4 – How we make decisions</b> (Decision making processes and records of decisions)  Current and previous council year as a minimum	Hard copy or website	
Timetable of meetings (Council, any committee/sub-committee meetings and Parish meetings)	Hard copy or website	
<b>Agendas of meetings (as above)</b>	Hard copy or website	
Minutes of meetings (as above) – n.b. this will exclude information that is properly regarded as private to the meeting.	Hard copy or website	
Reports presented to council meetings – n.b. this will exclude information that is properly regarded as private to the meeting.	Hard copy or website	
Responses to consultation papers	Hard copy or website	
Responses to planning applications	Hard copy or website	

<b>Class 5 – Our policies and procedures</b>  (Current written protocols, policies and procedures for delivering our services and responsibilities)  Current information only	Hard copy or website	
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Policies and procedures for the conduct of council business: Procedural standing orders Committee and sub-committee terms of reference Delegated authority in respect of officers Code of Conduct Policy statements	Hard copy or website	
Policies and procedures for the provision of services and about the employment of officers: Internal policies relating to the delivery of services Equality and diversity policy Health and safety policy Recruitment policies (including current vacancies)	Hard copy or website	
Policies and procedures for handling requests for information	Hard copy or website	
Complaints procedures (including those covering requests for information and operating the publication scheme)	Hard copy or website	
Information security policy	Hard copy or website	
Records management policies (records retention, destruction and archive)	Hard copy or website	
Data protection policies	Hard copy or website	

<b>Class 6 – Lists and Registers</b>		
Currently maintained lists and registers only	Hard Copy or website (please note some information may only be available by inspection)	
Any publicly available register or list (if any are held this should be publicised; in most circumstances existing access provisions will suffice)	Hard copy	
Assets Registers	Hard copy or website	

<b>Class 7 – The services we offer</b> (Information about the services we offer, including leaflets, guidance and newsletters produced for the public and businesses)	Hard copy or website	
Current information only		
Village Green	Hard copy	
Public toilets	Hard copy	
Public footpath work	Hard copy	
Inspection of Village Green play area & surrounds	Hard copy	
Register of members' interests	Hard copy or website	

TYPE OF CHARGE	DESCRIPTION	BASIS OF CHARGE
<b>Disbursement cost</b>	Photocopying @ 21p per sheet (black & white) – A4	Actual cost
	Photocopying @ 35 p per sheet (colour) – A4	Actual cost
	Postage	Actual cost of Royal Mail standard 2 <sup>nd</sup> class

**Date of adoption: 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2024    Contact details: Malcolm Harris, Parish Clerk, Bridge Cottage, Sticklepath, Ex20 2NR Tel: 07732 174017**

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