

Elloughton cum Brough Town Council

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Publication Scheme and Information Guide

Document History

Adopted by COUNCIL – 15th May 2023

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Town Clerk

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This 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.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 To publish any dataset held by the authority that has been requested, and any updated versions it holds, unless the authority is satisfied that it is not appropriate to do so; to publish the dataset, where reasonably practicable, in an electronic form that is capable of re-use; and, if any information in the dataset is a relevant copyright work and the public authority is the only owner, to make the information available for re-use under the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, if they apply, and otherwise under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act section 19.
- 1.5 The term 'dataset' is defined in section 11(5) of the Freedom of Information Act. The term 'relevant copyright work' is defined in section 19(8) of that Act.

2. Classes of Information

- 2.1 **Who we are and what we do.** Organisational information, locations and contacts, constitutional and legal governance.
- 2.2 **What we spend and how we spend it.** Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, tendering, procurement and contracts.

- 2.3 **What our priorities are and how we are doing.** Strategy and performance information, plans, assessments, inspections and reviews.
- 2.4 **How we make decisions.** Policy proposals and decisions. Decision making processes, internal criteria and procedures, consultations.
- 2.5 **Our policies and procedures.** Current written protocols for delivering our functions and responsibilities.
- 2.6 **Lists and registers.** Information held in registers required by law and other lists and registers relating to the functions of the authority.
- 2.7 **The services we offer.** Advice and guidance, booklets and leaflets, transactions and mediareleases. A description of the services offered.
- 2.8 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.

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

- 3.1 The authority will indicate clearly to the public what information is covered by this scheme and how it can be obtained.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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.

4. Charges which may be made for information published under this scheme

- 4.1 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.

- 4.2 Material which is published and accessed on a website will be provided free of charge.
- 4.3 Charges may be made for information subject to a charging regime specified by Parliament.
- 4.4 Charges may be made for actual disbursements incurred such as:
 - photocopying
 - postage and packaging
 - the costs directly incurred as a result of viewing information
- 4.5 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.
- 4.6 Charges may also be made for making datasets (or parts of datasets) that are relevant copyright works available for re-use. These charges will be in accordance with the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, where they apply, or with regulations made under section 11B of the Freedom of Information Act, or with other statutory powers of the public authority.
- 4.7 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.

5. Written requests

- 5.1 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.

6. Information Guide

- 6.7 The following information is available from Elloughton cum Brough Town Council under the model publication scheme
- 6.8 The information in this definition document is available unless:
 - The Town Council does not hold the information;
 - the information is exempt under one of the FOIA exemptions or Environmental Information Regulations exceptions, or its release is prohibited by another statute;
 - the information is readily and publicly available from an external website; such information may have been provided by the public authority or on its behalf. The authority must provide a direct link to that information;
 - the information is archived, out of date or otherwise inaccessible; or,
 - it would be impractical or resource-intensive to prepare the material for routine release.

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Class1 - Who we are and what we do Current information only. Organisational information, structures, locations and contacts.		
Who's who on the Council and its Committees	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Contact details for Parish Clerk and Council members (named contacts where possible with telephone number and email address (if used))	Hard copy or website	
Location of main Council office and accessibility details	Hard copy or website	
Staffing structure	Hard copy or website	
Class 2 – What we spend and how we spend it Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, procurement, contracts and financial audit. Current and previous financial year as a minimum.		
Annual return form and report by auditor	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Finalised budget	Hard copy or website	
Precept	Hard copy or website	
Borrowing Approval letter	Currently not applicable	N/A
Financial Standing Orders and Regulations	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Grants given and received	Hard copy or website	
List of current contracts awarded and value of contract	Hard copy or website	
Members' allowances and expenses	Currently not applicable	N/A
Class 3 – What our priorities are and how we are doing Strategies and plans, performance	Hard copy or website	

indicators, audits, inspections and reviews. Current and previous financial year as a minimum.		
Action Plan	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Annual Report to Parish or Community Meeting	Hard copy or website	
Quality status	Currently not applicable	N/A
Local charters drawn up in accordance with DCLG guidelines	Currently not applicable	
Class 4 – How we make decisions Decision making processes and records of decisions. Current and previous council year as a minimum.		
Timetable of meetings (Council and any committee/sub-committee meetings and parish meetings)	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Agendas of meetings	Hard copy or website	
Minutes of meetings (this will exclude information that is properly regarded as private to the meeting)	Hard copy or website	
Reports presented to council meetings (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	
Bye-laws	Currently not applicable	N/A
Class 5 – Our policies and procedures Current written protocols, policies and procedures for delivering our services and responsibilities. Current information only.		
Policies and procedures for the conduct of council business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural standing orders • Committee and sub-committee terms of reference 	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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"> • Internal instructions to staff and policies relating to the delivery of services • Equality and diversity policy • Health and safety policy • Recruitment policies (including current vacancies) • Policies and procedures for handling requests for information • Complaints procedures (including those covering requests for information and operating the publication scheme) 	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
<p>Data protection policies and procedures (GDPR):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information security policy • Records management policies (records retention, destruction and archive) • Data protection policies • Schedule of charges (for the publication of information) 	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
<p>Class 6 – Lists and Registers</p> <p>Currently maintained lists and registers only</p>		
Any publicly available register or list (if any are held this should be publicised; in most circumstances existing access provisions will suffice)	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Assets register	Hard copy or website	Free on ERYC's website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Register of members' interests	Hard copy or website	
Register of gifts and hospitality	Hard copy or website	

Class 7 – The services we offer Information about the services we offer, including leaflets, guidance and newsletters produced for the public and businesses. Current information only.		
Information on services, which includes, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotments • Community centres • Parks, green space and recreational facilities • Seating, litter bins, memorials and lighting • Bus shelters 	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule
Agency agreements	Currently not applicable	N/A
Services for which the council is entitled to recover a fee, together with those fees (e.g. burial fees)	Hard copy or website	Free on website or at the cost stated in the schedule

Contact details:

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Schedule of Charges

Describes the charges. Please contact the Town Clerk for specific costs of documents.

TYPE OF CHARGE	DESCRIPTION	BASIS OF CHARGE
Disbursement cost	Photocopying at 4p per sheet (black & white)	Actual cost incurred by the Town Council
	Photocopying at 8p per sheet (colour)	Actual cost incurred by the Town Council
	Postage	Actual cost of Royal Mail standard 2 nd class and envelope
Statutory Fee	Where applicable	In accordance with the relevant legislation