

NEWPORT PARISH COUNCIL

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT POLICY

Newport Parish Council recognises that documentation must be retained and managed to enable it to comply with legal requirements in the exercise of its functions together with Data Protection and Freedom of Information Legislation.

In this policy 'documentation' shall mean not only hard copy paperwork letters and documentation but also all documents including emails stored digitally.

To facilitate the effective management of the Council's business this document sets out an agreed policy regarding the management of documentation.

All members of the Council and employees shall keep paper records stored in a secure environment. In the case of computer records the records shall be password protected and in the case of paper documents they shall be kept in lockable storage.

All documentation shall be reviewed on an annual basis to enable a decision to be made in accordance with the terms of this policy as to whether the individual documents should be retained as currently stored, archived either by the Council or a reputable institution or destroyed.

This policy shall be reviewed from time to time and in particular at such times when the Council shall acquire new functions or activities.

Documentation shall be retained or archived for the period of time as set out in the following table.

Documentation	Retention Period	Reason
Minute books	Indefinite	Record of decisions
Receipt and Payment Accounts	Indefinite	Record of financial affairs
Investments	Indefinite	Audit and management
Title Deeds, leases, agreements and contracts	Indefinite	Audit and management
Certificate of Insurance against liability for employees	40 years from the commencement or renewal of such insurance	The Employers Liability (compulsory insurance) Regulations 1998
Play area inspections	29 years	Limitation Act
Wages records	12 years	Superannuation legislation
Receipt books of all kinds	6 years	VAT legislation
Scale of fees and charges	6 years	Management
Quotations and tenders	6 years	Limitation Act
Paid invoices	6 years	VAT legislation

Paid cheques	6 years	Limitation Act
VAT Records	6 years	VAT legislation
Petty cash/postage books	6 years	Tax, VAT and Limitation legislation
Members allowances register	6 years	Tax, legislation and Limitation Act
Bank statements to include deposits and savings accounts	3 years	Audit
Bank paying in books	3 years	Audit
Cheque book stubs	3 years	Audit
Timesheets	3 years	Audit
Insurance policies	3 years	Management
Parish magazines	3 years	Management
All other documentation not mentioned	3 years	Management and good practise
Allotments Register and plans	Indefinite	Audit and management

Reviewed 5th June 2023

Date of next review - May 2024