

Staverton Parish Council

Equality and Diversity Policy

Introduction

Staverton Parish Council is committed to providing and promoting equal opportunities, eliminating discrimination and encouraging diversity in the community. We aim to create a culture that respects and values each other's differences and which promotes dignity, equality and diversity.

Purpose

Staverton Parish Council recognises that supporting equality is of primary importance. This policy will help Councillors and employees of the Council to develop sound and effective practices that impact on the local community, whilst ensuring that the Council meets its duty under the Equality Act 2010.

Scope

This policy applies to all employees, volunteers, contractors and elected & co-opted members of Staverton Parish Council. It is their responsibility to ensure that they do not discriminate in any way and their duty to uphold equal opportunities principles. Any breach of this policy will be dealt with appropriately.

Equality Commitments

Staverton Parish Council supports the principles and practices of the Equality Act 2010 and recognises that it is the duty of all Councillors and employees to accept their personal responsibility for fostering a fully integrated community by respecting and adhering to the principles of equality for all. We will actively promote equality throughout the organisation through the application of policies, which will ensure that individuals receive treatment that is fair and equitable and consistent with their relevant aptitudes, potential, skills, experiences and abilities.

Staverton Parish Council is committed to:

1. Promoting equality of opportunity for all persons
2. Promoting a good and harmonious environment in which all persons are treated with respect and valued
3. Preventing occurrences of unlawful direct discrimination, indirect discrimination, harassment and victimisation
4. Fulfilling its legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010

Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 applies to public bodies and others carrying out public functions. It supports good decision-making by ensuring public bodies

consider how different people will be affected by the activities, policies and services provided.

The Equality Act 2010 places a Public Sector Duty on Staverton Parish Council to work to:

1. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
2. Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who don't share it
3. Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who don't share it

No individual will be discriminated against. This includes, but is not limited to the following characteristics (known as protected characteristics under the Act)

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Gender (including gender reassignment)
4. Marital status and civil partnerships
5. Pregnancy and maternity
6. Race
7. Religion and beliefs
8. Sexual orientation
9. Ethnic origin
10. Nationality

Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed as is necessary and appropriate, and at a minimum on an annual basis.

Adopted by Staverton Parish Council on 3rd July 2019

Last Reviewed: 17th May 2023