

RETENTION OF DOCUMENTS APPENDIX A – LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR RETENTION OR DISPOSAL

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
Minutes	Indefinite	Archive	Council office. County Archives.	Original signed paper copies of Council minutes of meetings must be kept indefinitely in safe storage. At regular intervals of not more than 5 years they must be archived and deposited with the Higher Authority
Agendas	5 years	Management	Electronic & on website	Bin (shred confidential waste)
Accident/incident reports	20 years	Potential claims	Council office	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Scales of fees and charges	6 years	Management	Council office & website	Bin
Receipt and payment accounts	Indefinite	Archive	Council office and County Archive	N/A
Receipt books of all kinds	6 years	VAT	Council Office	Confidential waste
Bank statements including deposit/savings accounts	Last completed audit year + 1 year	Audit	Council Office	Confidential waste
Bank paying-in books	Last completed audit year + 1 year	Audit	Council Office	Confidential waste
Cheque book stubs	Last completed audit year + 1 year	Audit	Council Office	Confidential waste
Quotations and tenders	6 years	Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council Office	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Paid invoices	6 years	VAT	Council Office	Confidential waste
Paid cheques	6 years	Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council Office	Confidential waste
VAT records	6 years generally but 20 years for VAT on rents	VAT	Council Office	Confidential waste

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Petty cash, postage and telephone books	6 years	Tax, VAT, Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council Office	Confidential waste
Timesheets	Last completed audit year 3 years	Audit (requirement) Personal injury (best practice)	Council Office	Confidential waste
Wages books/payroll	6 years	Superannuation/Audit	Council Office and Sage Payroll	Confidential waste
Insurance policies	While valid (but see next two items below)	Management	Council Office	Bin
Insurance company names and policy numbers	Indefinite	Management	Council Office	N/A
Certificates for insurance against liability for employees	40 years from date on which insurance commenced or was renewed	The Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations 1998 (SI 2753) Management	Council Office	Confidential waste
Playground equipment inspection reports	21 years	Legislation	Council Office	Confidential waste
Title deeds, leases, agreements, contracts	Indefinite	Audit, Management	Safe, Council Office	N/A
Members' allowances register	6 years	Tax, Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	N/A. No allowances in operation.	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Information from other bodies e.g. circulars from county associations, NALC, principal authorities	Retained for as long as it is useful and relevant			Bin
Local/historical information	Indefinite – to be securely kept for benefit of the Parish	Councils may acquire records of local interest and accept gifts or records of general and local interest in order to promote the use for such records (defined as materials in written or other form setting out	Council office, Pitstone Heritage Park or County Archives	N/A

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		facts or events or otherwise recording information).		
Magazines and journals	Council may wish to keep its own publications For others retain for as long as they are useful and relevant.	The Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) requires a local council which after 1 st February 2004 has published works in print (this includes a pamphlet, magazine or newspaper, a map, plan, chart or table) to deliver, at its own expense, a copy of them to the British Library Board (which manages and controls the British Library). Printed works as defined by the 2003 Act published by a local council therefore constitute materials which the British Library holds.	Council office, Editors office	Bin if applicable
Record-keeping				
To ensure records are easily accessible it is necessary to comply with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of files stored in cabinets will be kept • Electronic files will be saved using relevant file names 	The electronic files will be backed up periodically on a portable hard drive	Management	Council office, offset copy at Chairman's home	Documentation no longer required will be disposed of, ensuring any confidential documents are destroyed as confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.

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General correspondence	Unless it relates to specific categories outlined in the policy, correspondence, both paper and electronic, should be kept. Records should be kept for as long as they are needed for reference or accountability purposes, to comply with regulatory requirements or to protect legal and other rights and interests.	Management	Council office	Bin (shred confidential waste) A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Consultations with residents	Full data for 12 months from close of consultation. Anonymised data for 5 years (or 1 year after a new/replacement survey has been carried out)	Deliver council services	Council office	Confidential waste
Documents relating to a current project	12 months from conclusion of project, unless relates to procurement/tendering etc.	Deliver council services & audit	Council office	Bin or Confidential waste as appropriate
Correspondence relating to staff	If related to Audit, see relevant sections above. Should be kept securely and personal data in relation to staff should not be kept for longer than is necessary for the purpose it was held. Likely time limits for tribunal claims between 3–6 months Recommend this period be for 3 years	After an employment relationship has ended, a council may need to retain and access staff records for former staff for the purpose of giving references, payment of tax, national insurance contributions and pensions, and in respect of any related legal claims made against the council.	Council office	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.

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	<p>Documents from legal matters, negligence and other torts Most legal proceedings are governed by the Limitation Act 1980 (as amended). The 1980 Act provides that legal claims may not be commenced after a specified period. Where the limitation periods are longer than other periods specified the documentation should be kept for the longer period specified. Some types of legal proceedings may fall within two or more categories. If in doubt, keep for the longest of the three limitation periods.</p>			
Negligence	6 years			Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Defamation	1 year			Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Contracts	6 years		Council office	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Leases	12 years		Safe, Council office, Solicitors Office	Confidential waste.
Sums recoverable by statute	6 years			Confidential waste.
Personal injury	3 years			Confidential waste.
To recover land	12 years			Confidential waste.
Rent	6 years		Council office	Confidential waste.
Breach of trust	None			Confidential waste.
Trust deeds	Indefinite		Safe, Council office, Solicitors Office	N/A
	For Pavilion & Recreation Ground etc			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application to hire Invoices Record of tickets issued 	6 years	VAT	Council office	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Lettings diaries	Electronic files linked to accounts	VAT	Council office	Confidential waste
Terms and Conditions	6 years	Management	Council office	Bin

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Event Monitoring Forms	6 years unless required for claims, insurance or legal purposes	Management	Council office	Bin. Confidential waste where appropriate. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
For Allotments				
Register and plans	Indefinite	Audit, Management	Council office, Safe	n/a
Tenancy Agreements	Indefinite	Legal requirement. Must be able to audit trail tenancies in case issues arise re contamination.	Council office or county archive	n/a
Legal papers	Indefinite	Audit, Management	Safe, council office	N/A
Planning Papers				
Applications	AVDC Portal only unless significant development	Management	AVDC Portal only	n/a
Appeals	AVDC Portal only unless significant development	Management	AVDC Portal only	n/a
Local Development Plans	Retained as long as in force	Reference	Council office	Bin
Local Plans	Retained as long as in force	Reference	Council office	Bin
Town/Neighbourhood Plans	Indefinite – final adopted plans Drafts/working documents/miscellaneous background papers - 2 years post final adoption	Historical purposes	Council office	N/A