

1. Introduction

- Puddletown Area Parish Council recognises its responsibilities as an employer for providing a safe and healthy environment for all its employees, contractors voluntary helpers and others who may be affected by the activities of the Council.
- The Council will make every effort to meet its responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.
- An up-to-date copy of this Policy shall be maintained on Puddletown Area Parish Council's website.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that Puddletown Area Parish Council provides, as far as is reasonably practicable:

- A safe place to work and a safe working environment
- Sufficient information, instruction and training for employees, contractors and voluntary helpers to carry out their work safely.
- Care and attention to health, safety and welfare of employees, contractors, voluntary helpers and members of the public who may be affected by the Council's activities.
- Safe facilities for the use of the residents of Puddletown Area Parish and the wider public.

3. Responsibilities

The ultimate responsibility for health and safety rests with the Councillors of Puddletown Area Parish Council. Day to day responsibility for implementation is delegated to the Clerk.

Responsibilities of the Clerk. The Clerk will:

- Keep informed of relevant Health and Safety Policy legislation and inform the Council accordingly.
- Ensure sufficient information, instruction, training, and supervision to enable all employees to identify and avoid hazards.
- Ensure that regular risk assessments of the Toilets, Clerks home (place of work) and the Playgrounds are carried out where required.
- Maintain a record of risk assessments.
- Make effective arrangements to ensure that contractors or voluntary helpers working for the Council comply with all reasonable health and safety at work requirements.
- Maintain a central record of notified accidents.
- Ensure that the workplace and equipment is subjected to regular health and safety checks.
- When an accident or hazardous incident occurs take immediate action to prevent a recurrence or further accident and to complete the necessary accident reporting procedure.
- Any health and safety issues that cannot be addressed adequately should be referred to the Chairman of the Parish Council or if he/she is unavailable to the Vice Chairman.

3.1 Responsibilities of Councillors, employees, contractors and voluntary helpers.

Councillors, employees, contractors, and voluntary helpers will:

- Cooperate fully with the aims and requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Policy and comply with Codes of Practice or work instructions for health and safety.
- Familiarise themselves and ask for advice (where considered necessary) in relation to health and safety instructions.
- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety, use appropriate personal protective clothing and, where appropriate, ensure the appropriate First Aid materials are available.
- Take reasonable care for the health and safety of other people who may be affected by their activities.
- Not intentionally interfere with or remove safety guards, safety devices or other equipment provided for health and safety.
- Not misuse any plant, equipment, tools or materials so as to cause risks to health and safety.
- Report hazards and defects to the Clerk immediately. If reports are made verbally, they should be followed up by a written report confirming the nature of the problem, its severity and any recommendation for action.
- Report any accidents or hazardous incidents to the Clerk immediately or as soon as is reasonably practicable and to assist with the investigation of such.

See Health and Safety Policy Annex for further details.

This Policy will be reviewed annually and can be updated at any time by resolution at a full council meeting.

Proposed at the Meeting of Puddletown Area Group Parish Council on February 2024

To be reviewed by February 2024

Associated documents.

- Health and Safety Policy Annex
- Risk Management Policy
- Risk Register