

# Records Retention Policy

East Leake Parish Council recognises that the efficient management of its records is necessary to comply with its legal and regulatory obligations and to contribute to the effective overall management of the association. This document provides the policy framework through which this effective management can be achieved and audited.

It covers:

- Scope
- Responsibilities
- Retention Schedule

## Scope

This policy applies to all records created, received or maintained by East Leake Parish Council in the course of carrying out its functions. Records are defined as all those documents which facilitate the business carried out by East Leake Parish Council and which are thereafter retained (for a set period) to provide evidence of its transactions or activities. These records may be created, received or maintained in hard copy or electronically. A small percentage of East Leake Parish Council records may be selected for permanent preservation as part of the Councils archives and for historical research.

**The data information audit map has been prepared to ensure compliance with new Protection of Personal Information (data). This Records Retention Policy incorporates all data and information held by ELPC including where no personal information is included**

## Responsibilities

East Leake Parish Council has a corporate responsibility to maintain its records and record management systems in accordance with the regulatory environment. The person with overall responsibility for this policy is the Clerk. The person responsible for records management will give guidance for good records management practice and will promote compliance with this policy so that information will be retrieved easily, appropriately and timely. Individual staff and employees must ensure that records for which they are responsible are accurate, and are maintained and disposed of in accordance with East Leake Parish Council's records management guidelines.

The retention schedule below refers to record series regardless of the media in which they are stored, mainly electronic text files and paper, but occasionally audio and video

{Note: A column in the data map also includes retention period}

## Retention Schedule

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason
<b>Minutes</b>		
Minutes of Council meetings	Indefinite	Archive
Minutes of committee meetings	Indefinite	Archive

<b>Employment</b>		
Staff employment contracts	6 years after ceasing employment	Management
Staff payroll information	3 years	Management
Staff pension information	6 years after ceasing employment	Management
Staff references (In and out)	6 years after ceasing employment	Management
Application forms (interviewed – unsuccessful)	6 months	Management
Employee information	6 years after ceasing employment	Management
Disciplinary files	6 years after ceasing employment	Management
Staff appraisals	6 years after ceasing employment	Management
<b>Finance</b>		
Scales of fees and charges	6 years	Management
Receipt and payment accounts	6 years	VAT
Bank statements	Last completed audit year	Audit
Cheque book stubs	Last completed audit year	Audit
Paid invoices	6 years	VAT
Paid cheques	6 years	Limitation Act 1980
Payroll records	12 years	HMRC
Petty cash accounts	6 years	HMRC
Annual returns and Audit	Indefinitely	Contract
<b>Insurance</b>		
Insurance policies	6 years after policy end	Management
Certificates for Insurance against liability for employees	40 years after policy end	Employer's Liability Regs 1998
Certificates for Public Liability	6 years after policy end	Management
Insurance claim records	6 years after policy end	Management
<b>Health and Safety</b>		
Accident books	3 years from date of last entry	Statutory
Risk assessment	3 years	Management
<b>General Management</b>		
Councillors contact details	Duration of membership	Management
Quotations and tenders		
Lease agreements	Indefinite	Audit/Manage ment
Contracts	Indefinite	Audit/Manage ment
Inspection reports	Indefinite	Audit/Manage ment
Email messages	At end of useful life	Management
Consent forms	Indefinitely	Management
GDPR Security Compliance form	Duration of membership	Management
Hard drives/memory sticks	At end of useful life	Management
Burial Ground records	Indefinitely	Archive
Historical information	Indefinitely	Archive
Health & Safety Risk Assessments etc	Updated as necessary	Management

Adopted at Full Council 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018