

Appendix A: List of Documents for Retention or Disposal

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Disposal
Minutes	Indefinite	Archive	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	Bin (shred confidential waste)
Accident/incident reports	20 years	Potential claims	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Scale of fees and charges	6 years	Management	Bin
Receipt and payment accounts	Indefinite	Archive	N/A
Receipt books of all kinds	6 years	VAT	Bin
Bank statements including deposit/savings accounts	Last completed audit year	Audit	Confidential waste
Bank paying-in books	Last completed audit year	Audit	Confidential waste
Cheque book stubs	Last completed audit year	Audit	Confidential waste
Quotations and tenders	6 years	Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	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	Confidential waste
Paid cheques	6 years	Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Confidential waste
VAT records	6 years generally bt 20 years for VAT on rents	VAT	Confidential waste
Petty cash, postage and telephone books	6 years	Tax, VAT, Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Confidential waste

Timesheets	Last completed audit year 3 years	Audit (requirement) Personal injury (best practice)	Bin
Wages books/payroll	12 years	Superannuation	Confidential waste
Insurance policies	While valid (but see next two items below)	Management	Bin
Insurance company names and policy numbers	Indefinite	Management	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	Bin
Park equipment inspection reports	21 years		
Investments	Indefinite	Audit, management	N/A
Title deeds, leases, agreements, contracts	Indefinite	Audit, management	N/A
Members' allowances register	6 years	Tax , Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	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 facts or events or otherwise recording information).	N/A
Magazines and journals	Council may wish to keep its own publications	The Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) requires a	Bin if applicable

	For others retain for as long as they are useful and relevant	local council which after 1 <sup>st</sup> 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.	
Record-keeping			
To ensure records are easily accessible it is necessary to comply with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A list of files stored in cabinets will be kept</li> <li>• Electronic files will be saved using relevant file names</li> </ul>	The electronic files will be backed up periodically on a portable hard drive.	Management	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.
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	Bin (shred confidential waste). A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.

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. Recommended 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.	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
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 specific 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			
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.
Contract	6 years		Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Leases	12 years		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		Confidential waste
Breach of trust	None		Confidential waste
Trust deeds	Indefinite		N/A
For halls, centres, recreation grounds			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application to hire</li> <li>• Invoices</li> <li>• Record of tickets issued</li> </ul>	6 years	VAT	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	N/A
Terms and conditions	6 years	Management	Bin
Event monitoring forms	6 years unless required for claims, insurance or legal purposes	Management	Bin. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Planning papers			
Applications	1 year	Management	Bin
Appeals	1 year unless significant development	Management	Bin
Trees	1 year	Management	Bin
Local development plans	Retained as long as in force	Reference	Bin
Local plans	Retained as long as in force	Reference	Bin
Neighbourhood plans	Indefinite – final adopted plans	Historical purposes	N/A