



# *Lighthorne Parish Council*

## **Policy: Equality & Diversity**

Lighthorne Parish Council is committed to providing equal opportunities, and to countering discrimination in the community.

The purpose of this policy is to provide equality and fairness for all and not to discriminate on grounds of gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age. All forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination are opposed.

### **1. Commitments as an employer**

- a) All employees will be treated fairly and with respect. Selection for employment, promotion, training or any other benefit will be on the basis of aptitude, ability and need. All employees will be helped and encouraged to develop their full potential to maximise the efficiency of the council.
- b) 1.2 The Parish Council's commitments are:
  - to create an environment in which individual differences and the contributions of all staff are recognised and valued.
  - to provide a working environment that promotes dignity and respect to all. No form of intimidation, bullying or harassment will be tolerated.
  - to make training, development and progression opportunities available to all staff.
  - to monitor and review this policy at least every four year to ensure it is compliant with current equal opportunities legislation and utilises, as far as is practicable, Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) guidelines and best practice.

### **2. Commitments as community leader and advocate**

The Parish Council is committed to creating a socially inclusive and cohesive community by:

- a) respecting the diversity of our community.
- b) working with others to ensure that Lighthorne is a safe place in which to live, work or visit.
- c) listening and responding to the views of our communities through appropriate consultation and participation mechanisms.
- d) ensuring the communications produced and events held positively reflect and promote the diversity of the communities and are made fully accessible.

### **3. Commitments as a service provider**

The Parish Council is committed to ensuring that our services are accessible to all and responsive by:

- a) ensuring our residents are aware of the council's services and by delivering services in ways that are sensitive to residents' needs.
- b) ensuring that all those in the community are able to visit the council's meeting rooms and open spaces.
- c) ensuring that the information provided about the council's services is accessible to our community.

Date of first adoption: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019