



STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COUNCILLORS & EMPLOYEES - GUIDANCE

Mutual trust and respect between Councillors and Officers is essential to ensure good governance and the effective running of a council. To help ensure that relationships do not go awry, it is advisable to have a written protocol, which can cover:

- The respective roles and responsibilities of the Councillors and the Clerk, and any other staff employees;
- Relationships between Councillors and Officers;
- Where/Who the Clerk should go to if they have concerns;
- Who is responsible for making decisions.

The same fundamental principles apply regardless of the nature and size of the Council. This protocol has been written in a way that will be particularly relevant to larger councils but personal relationships and personnel matters can be particularly problematic in smaller councils where the Clerk may be the sole employee and means having an agreed protocol is very important.

It is the National Association of Local Councils' (NALC) policy that party politics should have no place in parish councils, the concept being that parish councillors are there to serve their community as members of that community and should not be sidetracked by party political issues. NALC does not therefore encourage parish councils to adopt political groupings.

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