



## STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL

### STATEMENT OF POLITICAL NEUTRALITY

#### **Purpose:**

Stotfold Town Council is committed to serving all residents with fairness, integrity, and impartiality. This statement affirms our dedication to maintaining a politically neutral stance in all our functions, decisions, and actions.

#### **Core Principles:**

**1. Impartial Service:**

Stotfold Town Council serves all members of the community without bias or favour towards any political party or group. Our decisions and actions are guided solely by the best interests of the residents of Stotfold.

**2. Non-Discriminatory Practices:**

We ensure that all council activities and services are delivered equitably, without discrimination based on political affiliation, beliefs, or any other personal characteristic. Every resident's voice is valued equally.

**3. Objective Decision-Making:**

The Council's decisions are based on factual information, objective analysis, and the merits of each issue. We strive to make evidence-based choices that reflect the needs and well-being of the entire community.

**4. Transparency and Accountability:**

We operate with transparency, providing clear and accessible information about our processes and decisions. The Council is accountable to the public and is committed to upholding trust and integrity in all its dealings.

**5. Respect for Diverse Views:**

The Council respects and welcomes a diversity of opinions and perspectives. We encourage open and respectful dialogue and aim to create an inclusive environment where all viewpoints can be expressed.

**6. Non-Partisan Conduct:**

Council members and staff must refrain from using their roles to promote personal political views or to influence others politically.

The Town Council will, where possible as far as practicable, invite all interested parties to Town Council facilitated meetings, irrespective of political affiliations.

#### **Implementation:**

**Code of Conduct:** All council members and staff adhere to a Code of Conduct that outlines expectations for politically neutral behaviour and the avoidance of conflicts of interest.

**Training and Awareness:** Regular training and resources are provided to ensure all members and staff understand and can effectively uphold the principles of political neutrality.



**Monitoring and Review:** The Council regularly reviews its policies and practices to ensure compliance with this statement and to address any issues that may arise.

**Commitment:**

Stotfold Town Council is dedicated to fostering an environment of trust and fairness. By maintaining political neutrality, we ensure that our focus remains on serving the best interests of the community as a whole. We are committed to these principles and to continually improving our practices to better serve all residents.