



IN COLLABORATION WITH SLCC, NALC, OVW, COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

The Civility and Respect Pledge

Agreed at Studley Parish Council meeting held 16th August 2022

Statement: Our council -	Tick to agree
1. has agreed it will treat all councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.	✓
2. has committed to training councillors and staff.	✓
3. has signed up to the Code of Conduct for councillors.	✓
4. has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.	✓
5. will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.	✓
6. will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.	✓
7. will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model / champion council eg via the Local Council Award Scheme.	✓
8. will support the continued lobbying for change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.	✓

Signed: 
Cllr C J Summers, Chairman

Date 16/08/2022

The Civility and Respect Working Group Mission Statement

The Civility and Respect Project Working Group set out a mission statement summarising the core aims and values for securing permanent change in the sector:

'Civility and respect should be at the heart of public life and good governance is fundamental to ensuring an effective and well-functioning democracy at all levels.

The intimidation, abuse, bullying and harassment of councillors, professional officers and staff, in person or online, is totally unacceptable; whether that is by councillors, professional officers, staff or members of the public.

This can prevent councils from functioning effectively, councillors from representing local people, discourage people from getting involved including standing for election, and undermine public confidence and trust in local democracy.

National Association of Local Councils (NALC), county associations of local councils and One Voice Wales (OVW), as the membership organisations representing the first tier of local government in England and Wales, and Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) as the professional body for clerks, are committed to working together to promote civility and respect in public life, good governance, positive debate and supporting the well-being of councillors, professional officers and staff.

To that end the Group will be working to deliver tangible resources, actions and interventions in four main areas: providing councils with the tools to support good governance; lobbying to strengthen the standards regime and encourage more people to get involved; training; and processes to intervene to provide support to struggling councils.'