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**Transparency Code Requirements**

**Reviewed May 2021**

The Local Government Transparency Code 214 was introduced to meet the Government’s desire to place more power into citizens’ hands to increase democratic accountability and make it easier for local people to contribute to the local decision-making process and help shape public services. The Government believes that transparency is the foundation of local accountability and the key that gives people the tools and information they need to enable them to play a bigger role in society.

The Government says that in principle all data held and managed by local authorities should be made available to local people unless there are specific sensitivities (eg. Protecting vulnerable people or commercial and operational considerations) to doing so. It encourages local authorities to see data as a valuable resource not only to themselves, but also their partners and local people.

Attached at Annex A is a table summarising the information that the Government wants to see published by local authorities. You should note that the definition of ‘local authority’ includes county and borough councils as well as those parish councils with an income or expenditure in excess of £200k. This means that some of the reporting requirements are not necessarily relevant to Haslemere Town Council.

In the following table you will see the information Title followed by Mandatory Requirements (those which must be implemented) and Recommended Requirements (those which are not mandatory, but which go further than the mandatory requirements and the Government would like to see implemented). The last column contains information required as of March 18.

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Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Haslemere Town Council