STOCKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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Equal Opportunities Policy

Introduction

The Parish Council believes that it has a special role to play in the promotion of equal opportunity in the community, both as an employer and as a service provider to the population of the Parish of Thurnham.

This policy is intended to ensure that all members of the Parish Council and the users of the Parish Councils services will be treated with fairness and consistency, free from discrimination.

Objectives

The overall objectives of the Policy are:

- to prevent direct and indirect discrimination in all areas of employment, service provision and delivery in respect of sex, race , marital or family status, religion, disability, colour, ethnic or national origin, age or sexual orientation as far as is permitted by statute, rules and regulations;

- to examine and wherever possible enhance equality of opportunity at all points of contact with service users;

- to consult service users on the effectiveness of the policy and possible improvements to it;

- to ensure that any employees and Councillors are fully conversant with the Policy and receive training if necessary.

Monitoring

The Parish Council shall annually review service operations in order to ensure adherence to the Policy.

Equal opportunity monitoring will be extended to all recording of Parish Council service usage.

Complaints

Complaints made under this Policy will be dealt with by the Parish Council.

Any complaints received will be reported to the Parish Council at it next meeting.

This Policy does not take away the right of anyone wishing to pursue a complaint direct with another body, but it is hoped that any aggrieved person will wish to pursue their complaints with the Parish Council so that the matter may be quickly and effectively investigated.