

# MADELEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Equality Policy

In the Equality Act 2010, section 149, “Public Sector Equality Duty”, it is unlawful to discriminate against an individual on the following grounds:

- **age**
- **disability**
- **gender reassignment**
- **marriage and civil partnership**
- **pregnancy and maternity**
- **race**
- **religion or belief**
- **sex**
- **sexual orientation**

Under the Equality Act 2010 these are known as “protected characteristics”.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide equal opportunities for everyone who comes into contact with Madeley Parish Council, irrespective of their characteristics (unless there are genuine occupational qualifications or objectively justified reasons for a different approach to be taken). We oppose all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination whether it is direct or indirect discrimination, victimization or harassment on the grounds of any of the protected characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010.

### **EMPLOYEES:**

All employees whether full-time, part-time, fixed term contract, agency workers or temporary staff, will be treated fairly and equally. Selection for employment, promotion, training, remuneration or any other benefit will be on the basis of aptitude and ability. All employees will be helped and encouraged to develop their full potential and the talents and resources of the workforce will be fully utilized to maximize the efficiency of the council.

The commitment to equal opportunities in the workplace is good management practice and makes sound business sense as it seeks to utilize the talents available from the local community, representing society as a whole.

### **OUR COMMITMENT:**

Every employee, councillor, parishioner or any other person who comes into contact with Madeley Parish Council is entitled to be treated with dignity & respect. No form of intimidation, bullying or harassment will be tolerated. Breaches of our equal opportunities policy will be regarded as serious misconduct and could lead to disciplinary proceedings. Employees are entitled to complain about

discrimination or harassment or victimization through the council's grievance procedure.

This policy is fully supported by all Members of the council and adopts the model contract as devised by the employee professional body in the local government sector (the Society of Local Council Clerks).

The policy will be monitored and reviewed bi-annually. Other Personnel policies will be reviewed against the values stated in this main Equal Opportunities policy to ensure that Madeley Parish Council strives to remain an Equal Opportunities employer.