

## **HARTLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **POLICY FOR DEALING WITH VEXATIOUS OR REPEATED REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to information held by public authorities.

Hartlebury Parish Council (the Council) is committed to dealing with genuine enquiries and request for information appropriately and in accordance with our other policies. Whilst the Council aims to be open and transparent, it is aware of the need to ensure that its time is not taken up pursuing vexatious or repeated requests and that staff and councillors are protected from such enquiries. The Council also has a responsibility to ensure the effective use of its resources, which are funded by the council tax payers of the parish of Hartlebury.

Our policy is to follow the latest guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office to ensure that requests that are deemed to be repeated or vexatious are dealt with fairly.

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – SECTION 14**

##### **14. Vexatious or Repeated Requests**

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.

(2) Where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.