

Information available from St Germans Parish Council under the Model Publication Scheme¹

This model publication scheme has been prepared and approved by the Information Commissioner. It may be adopted without modification by any public authority without further approval.

This publication scheme commits an authority to make information available to the public as part of its normal business activities.

The information covered is included in the classes of information mentioned below, where this information is held by the authority. Additional assistance is provided to the definition of these classes in sector specific guidance manuals issued by the Information Commissioner.

The scheme commits an authority:

- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information, including environmental information, which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications below.
- To specify the information which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications below.
- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information in line with the statements contained within this scheme.
- To produce and publish the methods by which the specific information is made routinely available so that it can be easily identified and accessed by members of the public.
- To review and update on a regular basis the information the authority makes available under this scheme.
- To produce a schedule of any fees charged for access to information which is made proactively available.
- To make this publication scheme available to the public.
- To publish any dataset held by the authority that has been requested, and any updated versions it holds, unless the authority is satisfied that it is not appropriate to do so; to publish the dataset, where reasonably practicable, in an electronic form that is capable of re-use; and, if any information in the dataset is a relevant copyright work and the public authority is the only owner, to make the information available for re-use under the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, if they apply, and otherwise under the terms of the Freedom of

¹ Adopted by full Council at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 24 February 2020 under minute number 9.11. Due for review February 2021.

Information Act section 19. The term ‘dataset’ is defined in section 11(5) of the Freedom of Information Act. The term ‘relevant copyright work’ is defined in section 19(8) of that Act.

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained
Organisation information	St Germans Parish Council – Local Authority
Council structure	This information is available from the Parish Council office or the Parish Council website
Location of Parish Council office and accessibility details	48 Lower Fairfield St Germans Cornwall PL12 5NH www.stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk Pre-arranged appointments only. This information is on all correspondence and the Parish Council website.
Staffing structure	1 employee (the Clerk) and up to 11 Ward Councillors (volunteers)
Contact details of the Clerk	Tel. 07845130596 Clerk@stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk This information is on all correspondence and the Parish Council website.
Councillor profiles	This information is available on the Parish Council website.
What we spend and how we spend it	
Annual return form and report by auditor	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Budget including precept	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
Expenditure over £500	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or

St Germans Parish Council

Mrs Emily Young – Parish Clerk and RFO

Email – clerk@stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk

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	the Parish Council website
Financial Standing Orders and Regulations	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Grants given and received	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
List of current contracts awarded and value of contract	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
Members' allowances and expenses	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
What our priorities are and how we are doing	
Parish Plan	We do not have one.
Chairman's Annual Report to Parish Meeting	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
How we make decisions	
Timetable of meetings	This document is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Agendas of meetings	This document is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website and posted on the noticeboards.
Minutes of meetings	This document is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website and posted on the noticeboards.
Reports presented to council meetings	This document is available from the Parish Council Office
Responses to consultation papers	This document is available from the Parish Council Office
Responses to planning applications	This document is available from the Parish Council Office, the Parish Council website, Cornwall Council website and posted on the noticeboards.
Our policies and procedures	

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Policies and procedures for the conduct of council business	These documents are available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Policies and procedures for the provision of services and about the employment of staff	This document is available from the Parish Council Office
Policies and procedures concerning data protection	These documents are available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Policies and procedures for the publication of information	These documents are available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Lists and Registers <i>(Any information we are currently legally required to hold in publicly available registers)</i>	
Register of members' interests	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council and Cornwall Council websites.
Register of gifts and hospitality	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
Asset register	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
The services we offer <i>(Information about the services we offer, including leaflets, guidance and newsletters produced for the public and businesses. Details of the services for which we are entitled to recover a fee together with those fees)</i>	
Burial grounds and closed churchyards	This information is available from the Parish Council Office or the Parish Council website
Parks, playing fields and recreational facilities	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
Seating, litter bins, clocks, memorials and lighting	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
Bus shelters	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
Agency agreements	This information is available from the Parish Council Office
A summary of services for which the council is	This information is available from the Parish Council Office

entitled to recover a fee, together with those fees	
Additional Information	
<p>Requests for information other than the broad classes of information which will routinely be made available to the public as detailed above, should be addressed to: The Parish Clerk St Germans Parish Council 48 Lower Fairfield St Germans Cornwall PL12 5NH Tel. 07845130596 Email. Clerk@stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk</p>	
Schedule of charges	
<p>Most of the information may be downloaded free of charge from the Parish Council’s website: www.stgermansparishcouncil.gov.uk</p> <p>Other information may be viewed by prior arrangement with the Clerk.</p> <p>One copy of any document which is not available for download from the website, will be supplied free of charge (plus postage) to any resident of St Germans Parish.</p> <p>For multiple copies, and/or for documents which are requested to be posted, the charge will be the copying cost at 5p per single sheet (black and white) or 35p per single sheet (colour) and the cost of Royal Mail second class postage.</p> <p>In accordance with the Model Publication Scheme provided by the Information Commissioner’s Office, the Parish Council reserves the right to make a charge for the disbursement of officer time (administration – currently charges at £20 per hour), photocopying and postage of complex and archived material.</p>	
Refusing a request for information	

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Below is a statement from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) which explain when the Parish Council may have to refuse providing you with the information requested. Further information can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/refusing-a-request/>

“A requester may ask for any information that is held by a public authority. However, this does not mean you are always obliged to provide the information. In some cases, there will be a good reason why you should not make public some or all of the information requested. You can refuse an entire request under the following circumstances:

*It would cost too much or take too much staff time to deal with the request

*The request is vexatious

*The request repeats a previous request from the same person

In addition, the Freedom of Information Act contains a number of exemptions that allow you to withhold information from a requester. In some cases, it will allow you to refuse to confirm or deny whether you hold information. Some exemptions relate to a particular type of information, for instance, information relating to government policy. Other exemptions are based on the harm that would arise or would be likely arise from disclosure, for example, if disclosure would be likely to prejudice a criminal investigation or prejudice someone’s commercial interests.

There is also an exemption for personal data if releasing it would be contrary to the Data Protection Act.

You can automatically withhold information because an exemption applies only if the exemption is ‘absolute’. This may be, for example, information you receive from the security services, which is covered by an absolute exemption. However, most exemptions are not absolute but require you to apply a public interest test. This means you must consider the public interest arguments before deciding whether to disclose the information. So you may have to disclose information in spite of an exemption, where it is in the public interest to do so.

If you are refusing all or any part of a request, you must send the requester a written refusal notice. You will need to

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issue a refusal notice if you are either refusing to say whether you hold information at all, or confirming that information is held but refusing to release it.”

