

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Title: STANDING ORDERS
Report of: CLERK
Date: 9 May 2018

SUMMARY:

NALC has published new model standing orders, to replace the previous standing orders that are currently adopted. This report summarises the changes to the new document.

REPORT:

The 2018 model standing orders incorporate or reference the requirements of new legislation introduced after 2013. Namely:

1. Amendments to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 which provides the right to report at council and committee meetings.
2. Amendments to the Local Government Act 1972 which permit electronic service of summons and agendas on councillors.
3. The Smaller Authorities (Transparency Requirements) Regulations 2015 which require councils in England with a gross annual income or expenditure (whichever is higher) that does not exceed £25,000 to publish certain information electronically. Although Stanwix Rural Parish Council exceeds this turnover it is recognised as best practice to comply.
4. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 which introduced requirements for the tendering and award of contracts (i) with an estimated value over £25,000 in England and (ii) with an estimated value which exceeds the thresholds in the Public Contracts Directive which are currently £4,551,413 for a public works contract and £181,302 for a public service and public supply contract in England and Wales.
5. Utilities Contract Regulations 2016 which introduced requirements for the tendering and award of a contract for a utility activity with an estimated value which exceeds the relevant financial thresholds, currently £363,424 for a supply, services or design contract, £4,551,413 for a works contract and £820,370 for a social and other specific services contract.
6. Changes to data protection legislation introduced by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which will come into force on 25 May 2018. The Data Protection Act 1998 is expected to be repealed and replaced by the Data Protection Act 2018 by this date.

In addition there are a few minor drafting improvements and relevant standing orders also encourage corporate responsibilities in relation to the provision and management of information (including personal data).

Asides from those which incorporate or reference new statutory requirements, the majority of the standing orders remain unchanged.

ACTION:

Councillors are recommended to approve the new standing orders with immediate effect.