

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4ER Telephone (01799) 510510 Textphone Users 18001 Email uconnect@uttlesford.gov.uk Website www.uttlesford.gov.uk

7 December 2022

Please ask for Jane Reynolds on 01799 510416

email: jreynolds@uttlesford.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

NEW MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

You may well be aware that Uttlesford District Council adopted the Local Government Association new model code of conduct and guidance at Full Council on the 11th October 2022. I have attached a link to the report that went to our Council here:

(Public Pack)Agenda Document for Council, 11/10/2022 19:00 (moderngov.co.uk)

The new model code has been placed in our constitution and can be viewed on the Councils website here:

Members Handbook S2 Part 5 Layout 1 (moderngov.co.uk):

Essex County Council have adopted the same code and guidance and across Essex and the UK many Councils are all doing the same.

The new Model code is very similar to the old in its content but is much easier to read, is written in the first person and along with the guidance provides much more detail on what would be considered a breach which is helpful to both members of the public and Councillors alike.

Our procedure for dealing with complaints currently remains the same and can be found at the same Members Handbook link above.

I know that many, if not all of you, had adopted our old code and I am writing today to encourage you to consider adopting the new model code and guidance so that we are all working off the same not only in Uttlesford, but across Essex and a large part of the UK.

My letter is going out to all Town and Parish Councils by email and we would be grateful if you could assist us in the first instance by confirming receipt to <u>committee@uttlesford.gov.uk</u> by the end of this year. We would also like to keep a record of those of you that decide to adopt the same and would therefore be grateful if you could email to the same address when you have done so or taken a decision not to.

The new code and guidance applies to all complaints that may come in regarding Uttlesford District Councillors as from the 12th October 2022 when it was adopted and until our Town and Parishes adopt the new code any complaints regarding those members will be assessed under their own codes.



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All our Uttlesford members after the elections will receive training on the new code but unfortunately we are not able to resource or provide training to all our Town and Parish Councils. I would therefore advise that any queries are directed to your professional advisors NALC and EALC. The guidance that is published with the new model code is also packed full of useful information.

I hope that everyone is well and now we fast approaching Christmas I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a Peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With kind regards,

Jane

Jane Reynolds

Assistant Director Governance & Legal Monitoring Officer Uttlesford District Council Council Offices London Road Saffron Walden Essex CB11 4ER

