Transparency

The Local Government Transparency Code 2015 (the code) came into effect on 1 April 2015. The code is issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in exercise of powers under section 2 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980, and replaces any previous codes issued in relation to authorities in England under those powers.

The code does not replace or supersede the existing framework for access to and re-use of public sector information provided by the:

- Freedom of Information Act 2000 (as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012)
- Environmental Information Regulations 2004
- Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005
- Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community regulations 2009
- Sections 25 and 26 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014
 which provides rights for persons to inspect a local authority's
 accounting records and supporting documentation, and to make copies
 of them.

The code requires local authorities in England to publish the following information **quarterly**:

Expenditure Exceeding £500 (see below):

• Expenditure exceeding £500 – 1st April 2024 - 30th June 2024

Government Procurement Card Transactions:

Betchworth Parish Council does not use a Government Procurement Card and therefore has no information to publish.

Procurement Information:

The code requires that local authorities must publish details of every invitation to tender for contracts to provide goods and/or services with a value that exceeds £5,000. This value has not been exceeded in 2023 so there is no information to publish.

Additionally, local authorities are required to publish the following information:

- end of year accounts (annually)
- annual governance statement (annually)
- internal audit report (annually)
- list of councillor or member responsibilities (annually)
- the details of public land and building assets (annually)
- Minutes, agendas and meeting papers of formal meetings (minutes within a month of the meeting and agendas no later than 3 days prior to the meeting date)

Betchworth Parish Council complies with the requirements of the code by publishing information on this website. Hard copies are available on request from the Parish Clerk.

As the code is updated from time to time we've provided a link to the current code in full below. Our websites provide the necessary framework to allow local authorities to discharge their transparency obligations in full.

<u>Local Government Transparency Code 2015</u>