

Full Council

Report Title:	Civility and Respect Pledge
Meeting Date:	17 January 2023
Contact Officer:	Lizzie Fuller, Committee Services Officer

Action Required

1. To consider passing a resolution to sign up to the civility and respect pledge.

Background

2. Thame Town Council considered signing up to the Civility and Respect Pledge at its meeting on 15 November 2022. Full details about the pledge can be viewed in that meeting's report, or via the link:
<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/civility-and-respect-project>
3. Whilst Members supported the pledge and what it stood for, there was concern regarding the training programme element.
4. NALC have been contacted and have advised:

I've had a quick look at your training policy and would say it fully meets the requirement as it includes member training. The training for members doesn't have to focus on the formal civility and respect training webinars, it can include things like reading the C&R newsletters or the good councillors guide, watching the HR podcasts, or attending code of conduct training. We are in the final stages of developing a code of conduct e-learning module which covers standards and ethics and will be available 'on demand'. So the requirement is more about ensuring that members understand that they are likely to need training to effectively carry out their roles.

5. See Appendix A for the Town Council's Training & Development Policy, as referred to above.
6. On the basis of this information, it is recommended that the Town Council now signs up to the Civility and Respect Pledge.

Resource Appraisal

7. The pledge and its requirements are within existing defined resources, and / or reflect what the Town Council does already, so there are no additional resource requirements identified.

Legal Powers:

- Localism Act 2011

Recommendation

It is recommended...

- That Thame Town Council signs up to the Civility and Respect Pledge.***