



Scheme of Delegation, Buckingham Town Council

1. Power to Delegate Functions

Under the Local Government Act 1972 s 101 (a) the Town Council has the power to arrange for the discharge of its functions by a committee, sub-committee, officer of the authority, or another local authority.

The Town Council does not have the power to delegate a decision to an individual Councillor.

2. Decisions of the Full Council:

The matters below are the sole responsibility of the Full Council:

- a) Approving the precept level of the Town Council;
- b) Authorising borrowing;
- c) Appointing representatives to outside bodies;
- d) Making, amending, revoking, re-enacting, or adopting by-laws;
- e) Agreeing the Town Council's Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement.

3. Committees and Sub-Committees

Procedures for delegation for the specific committees and sub-committees are specified under the Terms of Reference for each committee or sub-committee.

Committees can arrange for the discharge of any of their delegated powers to a sub-committee.

4. Working Parties/Groups

Working Parties or Groups have no delegated powers; they are only able to recommend a course of action to the Council/Committee/Sub-Committee under which they are formed.

5. Town Council Staff

Under the Local Government Act 1972 the Town Council "shall appoint such officers as they think necessary for the proper discharge by the authority of such of their or another authority's functions as fall to be discharged by them".

Decisions can at any time be delegated to Town Council staff.

The following have been delegated to Town Council staff:

- a) General matters
 - i) To sign on behalf of the Council any document to give effect to any decision of the Council;
 - ii) To manage the Council's facilities, property, and assets;
 - iii) To act on behalf of the Council as a designated officer with respect to complying with legislation;
 - iv) To instigate and authorise the repair and maintenance of Town Council equipment, property, or assets so long as the Town Council's Financial Regulations are adhered to, and the cost does not exceed the current budget;



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- v) To purchase equipment and supplies to be used by staff or contractors to repair or maintain Town Council equipment, property, or assets;
- vi) To purchase equipment and supplies to be used by staff or contractors to carry out the work, duties, policies, or resolutions of the Council, so long as the Town Council's Financial Regulations are adhered to, and the cost does not exceed the current budget, to the following limits:
 - 1. The Clerk, £2500
 - 2. The Deputy Clerk, £1000 (£2500 in the absence of the Clerk)
 - 3. Estates Manager, £1000
 - 4. Compliance Manager, £1000
 - 5. Assistant RFO, £1000
 - 6. Admin Asst and External Services Manager, when making regular orders (e.g., stationery, sanitary) £250.
- vii) To dispose of Town Council equipment or assets, where reason to do so, in accordance with the Asset Register and Disposal Policy.

b) Urgent matters

The Town Clerk may incur expenditure on behalf of the Council which is necessary to carry out any repair replacement or other work which is of such extreme urgency that it must be done at once, whether or not there is any budgetary provision for the expenditure, subject to a limit of £5000.

The Town Clerk shall report the action to the appropriate committee as soon as practicable thereafter.

6. Variances with Financial Regulations

- 6.1. The Scheme of Delegation is intended to give more specific detail than the Financial Regulations in the above areas. If there is found to be any contradiction between the two documents, then the Scheme of Delegation shall override the Financial Regulations.

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