

# PRESS RELEASE



10/06/2026

## Saltash Town Council Recommits to Civility and Respect Pledge for 2026/27

Saltash Town Council is pleased to share that they have re-signed the Civility and Respect Pledge for the year 2026/27. The Town Council have further strengthened this commitment by ensuring every meeting agenda begins with a reminder of the Pledge, read aloud by the Chair:

**‘The Town Council has adopted the Civility and Respect Pledge. Members are reminded of their obligations under the Code of Conduct. Debate is to be respectful, focused on the issues, and conducted in accordance with the Code of Conduct.’**

Saltash Town Council first signed up to the Civility and Respect Pledge in September 2022, as part of a project run in collaboration with the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC), National Association of Local Councils (NALC), One Voice Wales (OVW), and County Associations. The Town Council believes it is now time to put civility and respect at the top of the agenda and start a culture change for the local council sector.



IN COLLABORATION WITH SLCC, NALC, OVW, COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

The Pledge was introduced to support the eradication of bullying, harassment and intimidation within the council sector, after growing concerns about the impact of this on parish and town councils, councillors, clerks, and council staff.

**As part of the Civility and Respect Pledge, Saltash Town Council will:**

- 1.** Treat all councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their role.
- 2.** Put in place a training programme for councillors and staff.
- 3.** Sign up to Code of Conduct for councillors.
- 4.** Have in place good governance arrangements, including staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.
- 5.** Commit to seeking professional help at early stages, should civility and respect issues arise.
- 6.** Commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.
- 7.** Continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model / champion council, e.g. via the Local Council Award Scheme.
- 8.** Support the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

Newly elected and co-opted councillors are required to acknowledge the Civility and Respect Pledge, with the Pledge also being referenced within staff policies, complaints handling and guidance, and the Town Council’s website. To further increase visibility of the Pledge, it is also included as a banner on the footer of each agenda, as shown below.



Saltash Town Council remains committed to firmly embedding the Civility and Respect Pledge across all Town Council meetings, policies, and working practices.

**“ Re-signing the Civility and Respect Pledge is an important step in continuing to build a positive and supportive council environment. Respectful debate and good conduct are at the heart of effective working, helping to ensure the wellbeing of councillors, staff and our community.**

**By placing this pledge at the forefront of our meetings and daily work, Saltash Town Council is strengthening its commitment to treating everyone with fairness, dignity and respect. It is a simple but important reminder of the standards we all share.**

**— Mayor Cllr Brian Stoyel**



Further details of the pledge and what it means can be found on the NALC website: <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/civility-and-respect-project#the-pledge>

**ENDS**



## Saltash Town Council – Contact Information

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## Notes To Editor

Saltash Town Council forms the third tier of local government and works with Cornwall Council who are our Unitary Authority. We are the largest Town Council in the south-east area of Cornwall.

The Town Council is committed to providing excellence in the Services and Facilities which it delivers. We aim to be responsive, accessible, and transparent in our approach and in the work delivered.

There are sixteen Councillors representing three Wards – Essa, Tamar and Trematon. Councillors are elected from the community every four years. Spaces are filled via by-elections, or by means of the Town Council choosing new Councillors via co-option.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman are elected by Members of the Town Council annually at the Annual Town Council meeting held in May. The Chairman also undertakes the role of Mayor representing the Town Council and community at official engagements, with their consort.