

# BUCKHURST HILL PARISH COUNCIL

## INVESTMENT POLICY

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council acknowledges the importance of prudently investing any surplus funds, whether temporary or longer term held on behalf of the community.

In accordance with Section 15(1) of the Local Government Act 2003, the Council will have regard (a) to such guidance as the Secretary of State may issue, and (b) to such other guidance as the Secretary of State may by regulations specify.

The Council's investment priorities are the security of reserves and the liquidity of its investments. The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity.

The Council will invest in Deposits and High Investment Accounts with high street banks or building societies as shall be agreed from time to time. Authorised signatories will be the same as for the Council's current account. In view of the unpredictability surrounding investment in the money market, the Council will not use stocks and shares as a type of investment.

The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) in consultation with the Finance & Establishment Committee will determine the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed and the maximum amounts of investment so as not to compromise liquidity.

Short term investments shall be defined as less than 1 year. The RFO shall have delegated power to invest in short term investments, any such investments shall be reported to the next full Council meeting.

Long term investments shall be defined as 1 year or greater. The RFO shall require full Council approval before entering into any long term investment.

The Council will rely on interest rate information which is publicly available.

The investment policy will be reviewed at least once annually at a meeting of the Finance and Establishment Committee with recommendations to full Council.

The Council reserves the right to amend the Investment Policy at any time. Any amendments will be minuted and made available to the public.

Adopted: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018