

Congleton Town Council

Investment Policy

I. Introduction

Congleton Town Council acknowledges the importance of prudently investing the temporarily surplus funds held on behalf of the community.

In preparing its Investment Policy the Council is required to comply with the guidance notes issued under Section 15 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003. The current statutory Community and Local Government (CLG) Investments Guidance notes came into force on 1st April 2010.

Town and Parish Councils with a budget larger than £500,000 are not eligible for compensation under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).

2. Objectives

The general policy objective of the Council is prudent investment of its balances in line with the widely recognised investment policy expressed as SLY, Security, Liquidity and Yield. The Council's priorities are:

1. Security of its reserves.
2. The Liquidity of its investments.
3. The Yield of its investments.

The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity.

3. Policies

1. All investments will be made in Sterling
2. No one investment shall be for a period longer than 12 months
3. The Town Council shall invest with banks/building societies or institutions with high credit quality ratings from credit agencies such as Standard and Poors; Moody's Investors Services Ltd and Fitch Ratings Ltd.
4. Day to day operation of moving money between the accounts will be delegated to the Responsible Financial Officer and Chief Officer.

5. Two senior Officers, the Chief Officer and the Responsible Financial Officer, and Three Councillors, the Chair, the Vice Chair and the former Vice Chair from the Finance and Policy Committee to transfer the funds elsewhere at maturity if the institution meets our criteria of security and liquidity, and if possible, a higher rate of interest. They have the authority to move funds from one provider to another as long as all five unanimously agree. Should all five not unanimously agree, the investment should be referred to Council.

In the event of either the Chief Officer or the Responsible Financial Officer not being available, the Deputy Chief Officer is hereby given authority to deputise.

In the event that any one or more of the three above nominated Councillors is/are not available, another Councillor(s) with voting rights on the Finance and Policy Committee is/are hereby given authority to deputise.

The authority vested in just point 5 will automatically lapse on the day the Notice of Poll for the Council elections to Congleton Town Council for May 2023 are published.