

## **Recruitment of Ex-offenders Policy**

As an organisation assessing applicants' suitability for positions which are included in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order using criminal record checks processed through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), Hackleton Parish Council complies fully with the DBS code of practice and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly. Hackleton Parish Council undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a criminal record check on the basis of a conviction or other information revealed.

Hackleton Parish Council can only ask an individual to provide details of convictions and cautions that Hackleton Parish Council is legally entitled to know about. Where a DBS certificate at either standard or enhanced level can legally be requested (where the position is one that is included in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended, and where appropriate Police Act Regulations as amended) Hackleton Parish Council can only ask an individual about convictions and cautions that are not protected.

Hackleton Parish Council is committed to the fair treatment of its staff, potential staff, volunteers or users of its services, regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, responsibilities for dependants, age, physical/mental disability or offending background.

Hackleton Parish Council actively promotes equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential and welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records.

Hackleton Parish Council select all candidates for interview based on their skills, qualifications, and experience, an application for a criminal record check is only submitted to DBS after a thorough risk assessment has indicated that one is both proportionate and relevant to the position concerned. For those positions where a criminal record check is identified as necessary, all application forms, job adverts, and recruitment briefs will contain a statement that an application for a DBS certificate will be submitted in the event of the individual being offered the position.

Hackleton Parish Council makes every subject of a criminal record check submitted to DBS aware of the existence of the code of practice and makes a copy available on request. Hackleton Parish Council undertakes to discuss any matter revealed on a DBS certificate with the individual seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional of employment or volunteering position.

Adopted September 2024 Review September 2027