

Accessibility Statement

This accessibility statement applies to Fowlmere Parish Council's website at: www.fowlmereparishcouncil.com

The Parish Council would like as many people as possible to be able to use this website. The Parish Council is aware that the website has a number of accessibility issues, which we will be looking to rectify in the near future.

Accessibility of the website was tested to the recommendations in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1, using the Microsoft Accessibility Insights for Web tool.

To what extent does the website meet the requirements?

An accessible website should allow a user to:

- change colours, contrast levels and fonts;
- zoom in up to 300% without the text spilling off the screen;
- navigate most of the website using just a keyboard;
- navigate most of the website using speech recognition software;
- listen to most of the website using a screen reader (including the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver).

Fowlmere Parish Council's website was shown to be 86% compliant with the WCAG criteria.

The key areas for non-compliance were:

- use of headings tags;
- absence of a bypass function to allow header links to be skipped;
- coding of accessible name and description on some links;
- coding of image tags and conveying of content through accessible name and description;
- some parsing errors in CSS code and incorrect use of style within div;
- pages do not reflow well when scaled.

The website allows magnification to 125% without scrolling left to right (or up to 200% with 2-way scrolling). The vast majority of the documents uploaded to the website are in PDF format. Some PDF documents such as the scanned Annual Governance and Accountability Returns (AGARs) do not comply with the regulations but these documents can be provided in an alternative format, on request.

Content that is not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

Documents edited before 23 September 2018 and not required for administrative processes are exempt from the regulations, so there are no current plans to make them accessible. If you need access to information in one of these documents, please contact the Clerk.

What alternative arrangements are available?

Much of the information on the PC's website is also posted for a short time on the village notice board located on Swan House, High Street, or can be made available in other formats

from the Parish Clerk. Please contact us by email (fowlmerepc@gmail.com) or telephone 01763 208901.

Plan to narrow the accessibility gap over time

The PC will carry out further evaluations of the website in the coming months to identify which elements are able to be rectified, and the cost and time frame involved in doing so.

The PC plan to:

- In the short term, implement better use of accessibility tags on links and images;
- In the medium term, review the poor use of headings and add bypass functions to header links;
- In the longer term, review whether the CSS code can be made compliant and the page reflowing fixed;
- At each assessment, consider whether there is disproportionate burden (i.e. costs associated with the proposed work disproportionately high and the beneficial impacts small). Consideration will be given as to whether purchasing a new website that is fully accessible will be more cost-effective.

Reporting accessibility problems with this website

We are always looking to improve the accessibility of this website. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we are not meeting accessibility requirements, please contact us by email (fowlmerepc@gmail.com) or telephone 01763 208901.

Enforcement procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations'). If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint [contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service \(EASS\)](#).

This statement was last reviewed on 22nd September 2020.