

COWES TOWN COUNCIL



Website Accessibility Statement

Accessibility statement for Coves Town Council

This website is run by Coves Town Council. We want as many people as possible to be able to use this website. For example, that means you should be able to:

- change contrast levels
- 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)

We've also made the website text as simple as possible to understand.

[AbilityNet](#) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

How accessible this website is

We know some parts of this website are not fully accessible:

- you can't modify the line height or spacing of text
- you cannot skip to the main content when using a screen reader

What to do if you cannot access parts of this website

If you need information on this website in a different format like accessible PDF, large print, easy read, audio recording or braille:

- Email: townclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk
- Telephone: 01983 209022

We'll consider your request and get back to you in 15 working days.

Reporting accessibility problems with this website

We're always looking to improve the accessibility of this website. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, contact the Town Clerk:

- Email: townclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk
- Telephone: 01983 209022

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 \(EASS\)](#).

Contacting us

- Post: Town Clerk, Cowes Town Council, Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8AZ
- Email: townclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk
- Telephone: 01983 209022

Technical information about this website's accessibility

Cowes Town Council is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

This website is partially compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#) AA standard, due to the non-compliances listed below.

Non accessible content

The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons.

Navigation and accessing information

There's no way to skip the repeated content in the page header (for example, a 'skip to main content' option). This fails WCAG 2.1 success criterion 2.4.1 (bypass blocks).

It's not possible for users to change text size without some of the content overlapping. This fails WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.4.4 (resize text).

Content that's not within the scope of the accessibility regulations PDFs and other documents

Many of our older PDFs and Word documents do not meet accessibility standards - for example, they may not be structured so they're accessible to a screen reader. This does not meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2 (name, role value).

The accessibility regulations [do not require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018](#) if they're not essential to providing our services.

Any new PDFs or Word documents we publish will meet accessibility standards.

How we tested this website

This website was last tested on 5 February 2020. The test was carried out by ourselves.

We used this approach to decide on a sample of pages to test with static content, links and pictures.

We tested our main website platform, available at <https://www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk>

What we're doing to improve accessibility

We plan to improve accessibility on this website when it is re-designed.

This statement was adopted on 16 July 2020. (Minute No. 8110 refers)

Reviewed 2 September 2021 (Minute No. 8353 refers)

Reviewed 1 September 2022 (Minute No. 8561 refers)

Reviewed 7 September 2023 (Minute No. 8776 refers)

Reviewed 5 September 2024 (Minute No 8994 refers)