



Policy: Website Accessibility Statement

Date of adoption by PC: 1st December 2025

Purpose

Brenchley and Matfield Parish Council (known as “the Council”) is committed to making its website accessible to all, irrespective of disability, by applying the relevant accessibility standards wherever possible.

Measures to support accessibility

The Council takes the following measures to ensure accessibility of the Council website:

- Regular reviews of the website are undertaken
- Updated regulations regarding accessibility are considered by the Council

Retrospective Review of existing documents

The Council has considered the potential disproportionate burden on its staff in amending historical documents on the website to fully comply with additional requirements for accessibility. The Council recognises that such documents may be requested at any time and will endeavour to provide assistance to ensure they are in an accessible format.

Compliance status

The [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\)](#) defines requirements for designers and developers to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. It defines three levels of conformance: Level A, Level AA, and Level AAA. The Council website is currently 93% conformant with WCAG 2.2 level AA (three pages tested).

Technical specifications

Accessibility of the Council website relies on the various technologies to work with the particular combination of web browser and any assistive technologies or plugins installed on your computer: These technologies are relied upon for conformance with the accessibility standards used and we cannot therefore guarantee that the site will work fully on older versions of assistive technology.

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

Despite our best efforts to ensure accessibility of the Council website, there may be some limitations. The content listed below may be non-accessible for the following reasons.

- Uploaded images may not have text alternatives because we cannot ensure the quality of contributions.
- Some older PDFs may not comply
- Some externally supplied, interactive PDFs may not be fully compliant.
- Some online forms might be difficult to navigate using just a keyboard

Where an issue is identified we will work towards resolving it, whilst considering the expenditure of public funds in a cost-effective way should specialist assistance be required.

Content not within the Scope of the accessibility regulations



BRECHLEY AND MATFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Matfield Pavilion, The Green, Matfield, Kent, TN12 7JU
Tel: 01892 723586 www.brenchleyandmatfield-pc.gov.uk

The following are currently exempt from the Accessibility regulations:

- pre-recorded audio and video published before 23 September 2020
- live audio and video
- heritage collections like scanned manuscripts
- PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018 – unless needed to use a service.
- maps – information may be available in url web address format
- third party content under someone else's control
- content on intranets or extranets published before 23 September 2019
- archived websites if not needed for services and they are not updated

Assessment Approach and Statement

The Council assesses the accessibility of the website by the following approach:

- Self-evaluation via the Microsoft Chrome Lighthouse and Axe automated testing tool
- Self-evaluation of the mobile version of the website as above

The test is carried out periodically by the Clerk to the Council on the Homepage and the Parish Council home tab and one other random page.

Feedback

We welcome your feedback on the accessibility of the Council website. Please let us know if you encounter accessibility barriers on the Council website by contacting the Clerk to the Parish Council at clerk@brenchleyandmatfield-pc.gov.uk.

