

27 May 2026

To: Town / Parish Clerks:

Members Register of Interest – Publication of Councillors’ home addresses must not be published :

In response to increasing concerns about Councillor safety, an important amendment has been introduced to the Localism Act 2011 under the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 which will become law on 29 June 2026.

Key change

This change in the law, means that a Councillor’s usual residential address **must not** be published in the public register of interests.

As a default *we shall automatically be redacting all Councillor home addresses* from the public registers held by the District Council over the coming weeks.

However, any Councillor who particularly wishes to have their address published, may “opt-in” to have their address shown. Publication of home addresses on interest forms can now only be done with explicit consent (a separate email will be issued to you for this purpose).

What the does legislation not change:

-The Councillor must still declare their home address as an interest to the Monitoring Officer on their interest form (this change in legislation just removes the requirement to make this public).

Second Address

This legislation change applies only to a usual residential address – as such, the District Council shall not automatically redact a second address.

Other Properties / Land

There will be some Councillors who own other properties / land - we shall not automatically redact these addresses.

If a Councillor considers the publishing of any other interests, including a second address, could lead to violence/intimidation towards them or their family, they should apply to the M.O. to have these classed as “sensitive interests”, as before.

We should be grateful if you would make your Councillors aware of these new arrangements, and please circulate the explicit consent forms for completion. A Councillor should only complete the form if they **want** their residential address in the public domain.

If you publish interest forms on your own website, please apply the same approach from 29 June 2026.

It is still best practice for the Parish Clerk to maintain a copy of a Parish Councillors interest form also.

If you or your Councillors have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the MO inbox: monitoringofficer@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Regards