



STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Lost Property Policy

Adopted on:

Review date:

Sturminster Newton Town Council gives notice of the following:

1. **Items found in buildings or premises owned or managed by us**

Wherever practicable, we will serve notice on the owner to collect it within one month. This will include a warning that failure to collect it within that period will result in ownership in the property vesting in the Council. If we are unable to serve notice the ownership will pass to the Council after one month.

2. **Items delivered to the Council (whether found on other premises and handed in by Council staff or members or others)**

Again, wherever practicable, we will serve notice on the owner to collect it within one month. This will include a warning that failure to collect it within six months will result in ownership in the property vesting in the Council. If we are unable to serve notice the ownership will pass to the Council after six months.

3. **Perishables or property which cannot be looked after**

Items which are perishable or which the Council is unable to look after for the periods indicated above, save at unreasonable expense, may be sold at any time and the proceeds will vest in the Council when the ownership would have passed had the items not been sold.

4. **Expenses of keeping lost property**

The Council reserves the right to charge any person who claims property before it has vested in the Council with the cost of its inquiries and custody.

5. **Rewards for finders**

Once any property has vested in the Council it shall be entitled (but not obliged) to give all or part of it or its value to the finder.