

Accessibility statement for www.castlesowerby-pc.gov.uk

This accessibility statement applies to www.castlesowerby-pc.gov.uk.

This website is run by Castle Sowerby Parish 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 colours, contrast levels and fonts using your browser or device settings
- zoom in up to 400% without the text spilling off the screen
- navigate most of the website using a keyboard or speech recognition software
- listen to most of the website using a screen reader (including 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:

- some older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software
- some newer PDF documents may not yet have full tagging or structured headings

The core website pages are simple, text-based and generally accessible.

Feedback and contact information

If you find any problems not listed on this page, or if you think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, please contact the Clerk.

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

- email clerk@castlesowerby-pc.gov.uk

We'll consider your request and get back to you within 14 days.

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.

If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS).

Technical information about this website's accessibility

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

Compliance status

This website is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 AA standard, due to the non-compliances and exemptions listed below.

Non-accessible content

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

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

Some PDF documents published after September 2018 are not fully accessible.

They may:

- lack proper tagging
- have unstructured headings
- contain tables without markup

This fails WCAG 2.2 success criterion 1.3.1 (Info and Relationships).

We plan to improve the accessibility of new PDFs from April 2026 onwards by using accessible templates and tagging.

Disproportionate burden

We have assessed the cost and practicality of retrospectively fixing all historic PDF documents. For a small parish council with limited resources, we believe that fully remediating all older PDFs would be a disproportionate burden within the meaning of the accessibility regulations.

We will review this position when the website contract is next renewed.

Content that's not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

PDFs and other documents

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.

Live video

We do not publish live video. If we do in future, captions for live video are exempt from the regulations.

What we're doing to improve accessibility

We are reviewing our document templates and publishing processes to ensure that all new documents from April 2026 onwards meet accessibility standards.

Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 24 March 2026.

It was last reviewed on 24 March 2026.

This website was last tested on 24 March 2026 against the WCAG 2.2 AA standard.

The test was carried out by Castle Sowerby Parish Council using a self-assessment of the most-visited pages and a manual review of the site structure, navigation and documents.