

AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

Website Accessibility Statement (draft)

To be considered by Axminster Town Council on 30th March 2026
Draft WAS v1 – PGH/March 2026

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1. Introduction

Accessibility statement for [www. Axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk)

This accessibility statement applies to www.axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk

This website is run by Axminster 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 colours, contrast levels and fonts using 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 the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver)

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

AbilityNet <https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk> has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

2. How accessible is this website?

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

you cannot modify the line height or spacing of some text

most older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software live video streams do not have captions

you cannot skip to the main content when using a screen reader

3. Feedback and contact information

If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we're not meeting your personal accessibility requirements, please contact: The Town Clerk, Axminster Town Council, The Guildhall, West Street, Axminster, EX13 5NX (clerk@axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01297 32088 with details of your query or concern or page faults.

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

The Town Clerk, Axminster Town Council (as above)

We'll consider your request and get back to you in no more than 5 (five) working days.

4. 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) (<https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>).

5. Technical information about this website’s accessibility

Axminster 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.

6. Compliance status

The website has been tested against the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 AA standard.

Following the last website accessibility test in March 2026, the Town Council asserts that the website was partially compliant as it met most requirements of the WCAG 2.2 AA standard; **it achieved a 95% accessibility rating.**

However, as our website is only partially compliant with the WCAG 2.2 AA standard, we are required to explain why. The legally required way of expressing the compliance status of our website is as follows:

(b) This website is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 (<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG22>) AA standard, due to the specific non-compliances listed below.

Non-accessible content

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

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

i) Some images do not have a text alternative, so people using a screen reader cannot access the information. This fails WCAG 2.2 success criterion 1.1.1 (non-text content).

We plan to add text alternatives for all images by April 2027. When we publish new content, we’ll endeavour to make sure our use of images meets accessibility standards.

ii) Navigation and accessing information

There's no way to skip the repeated content in the page header (eg, a 'skip to main content' option).

It's not always possible to change the device orientation from horizontal to vertical without making it more difficult to view the content.

It's not possible for users to change text size without some of the content overlapping.

We've assessed the cost of fixing the issues with navigation and accessing information. We believe that doing so now would be a disproportionate burden within the meaning of the accessibility regulations. We will make another assessment when the supplier contract is up for renewal, likely to be in late 2026 / early 2027.

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

a) 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 wherever possible.

b) Live video

We do not plan to add captions to live video streams because live video is exempt from meeting the accessibility regulations.

7. What we're doing to improve accessibility

We propose to publish an accessibility roadmap as soon as administrative resourcing allows to show how, and when, we plan to improve accessibility on this website.

8. Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 30th March 2026. It was last reviewed on 30th March 2026. This website was last tested on 26th March 2026 against the WCAG 2.2 AA standard using the ChromeDev Lighthouse online tool.

The test was carried out by Axminster Town Council (self-test) by the Town Clerk. The most viewed pages were tested using automated testing tools by our Town Clerk. A further audit of the website was carried out to the WCAG 2.2 AA standard.

9. Results from the last full accessibility test

You can read the full accessibility test report [HERE](#)

Adopted by Full Council:

30th March 2026

For review by Full Council

March 2027