General Disposal Guidelines for Local Authorities

Ref. No.	Function Description	Retention Action	Examples of Records	Notes
	CORPORATE PLANNING AND REPORTING			
2.1	The corporate planning and reporting activities of local authorities	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Corporate Plans</li><li>Strategy Plans</li><li>Business Plans</li><li>Annual Reports</li></ul>	Common practice
2.2	The process of preparing business for strategic consideration and making the record of discussion, debate and resolutions	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	Strategic management team minutes	Common practice
2.3	The process of preparing business for cross departmental consideration and making the record of discussion, debate and resolutions	Destroy 3 years from closure		Common practice
2.4	The process of preparing business for Unit/Team consideration and making the record of discussion, debate and resolutions	Destroy <b>3</b> years from closure		Common practice

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2.5	Statutory returns The process of preparing information to be passed on to central government as part of statutory requirements	Destroy <b>7</b> years from closure	Reports to central government	Common practice
2.6	Policy, Procedures, Strategy and Structure Activities that develop policies, procedures, strategies and structures for the local authorities	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded.	<ul> <li>Policy, procedure, precedent, instructions</li> <li>Organisation charts</li> <li>Records relating to policy implementation and development</li> <li>Education plan</li> <li>Asset management plan</li> <li>Children' s services plan</li> <li>Community strategy</li> <li>Community plan</li> </ul>	Common practice
2.7	The process of monitoring and reviewing strategic plans, policies or procedure to assess their compliance with guidelines	Destroy <b>5</b> years from closure	Community safety plan	Common practice

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Ref. No.	Function Description	Retention Action	Examples of Records	Notes
2.8	Public Consultation The process of consulting the public and staff in the development of significant policies of the local	Destroy <b>5</b> years from closure		Common practice
2.9	authority The process of consulting the public and staff in the development of minor policies of the local authority	Destroy <b>1</b> year from closure		Common practice
	Information Management			
2.10	The activity whereby standards, authorities, restraints and verifications are introduced and maintained to manage information effectively	Permanent. Offer to Archivist for review. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	<ul> <li>Classification schemes</li> <li>Registers</li> <li>Indexes</li> <li>Authorised lists of file headings</li> </ul>	Common practice
2.11	The management of collections of records transferred to the archives	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Accession registers</li><li>Depositor files</li></ul>	Common practice
2.12	The process that records the disposal of records	Destroy <b>12</b> years after last action	<ul> <li>Disposal certificates</li> </ul>	Common practice based on Limitation Act

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	Enquiries and Complaints			
2.13	The management in summary form of enquiries and complaints directed to council	Permanent. Offer to Archivist for review. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded.	<ul><li>Indexes</li><li>Registers</li></ul>	Common practice
2.14	The management of enquiries, submissions and complaints which result in significant changes to policy or procedures	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Reports</li><li>Returns</li><li>Correspondence</li></ul>	Common practice
2.15	The management of detailed responses on council actions, policy or procedures	Destroy <b>6</b> years after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Reports</li><li>Returns</li><li>Correspondence</li><li>Ombudsman</li></ul>	Common practice
2.16	The management of routine responses on council actions, policy or procedures	Destroy <b>2</b> years after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Printed material</li><li>Form letters</li></ul>	Common practice

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Ref. No.	Function Description	Retention Action	Examples of Records	Notes		
	Quality and performance management					
2.17	The process of monitoring or reviewing the quality, efficiency, or performance of a local authority service or unit	Destroy <b>5</b> years from closure	Best Value Review	Common practice		
2.18	The process of assessing the quality, efficiency, or performance of a local authority service or unit	Destroy 2 years from closure	Assessment form	Common practice		
	Public relations					
	Publications					
2.19	The process of designing setting information for publication	Destroy 3 years from last action		Common practice		
2.20	The published work of the local authority	Destroy after administrative use is concluded Note: One copy from the initial print run should go directly to the archive.		Common practice		

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Ref.	Function Description	Retention Action	Examples of Records	Notes
No.	Media Relations			
2.21	Process of interaction with the media	Destroy <b>3</b> years from closure		Common practice
2.22	Media publications concerning local authorities	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Press cuttings</li><li>Media reports</li></ul>	Common practice
	Marketing			
2.23	The process of developing and promotion of local authorities campaigns and events	Permanent. Offer to Archivist for review. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded		Common practice
	Civic and Royal Events			
2.24	The recording of ceremonial events and civic occasions	Permanent. Offer to Archivist. Transfer to place of deposit after administrative use is concluded	<ul><li>Visitors' book</li><li>Audio tapes</li><li>Video tapes</li><li>Photographs</li></ul>	Common practice
2.25	The process of organising a ceremonial event or civic occasions	Destroy <b>7</b> years after administrative use is concluded		Common practice
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