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What do we mean by Civility & Respect?

- **Definition of Civility & Respect:**
Civility means politeness and courtesy in behaviour, speech and in the written word.
- **Examples of ways in which you can show respect:**
By listening and paying attention to others, having consideration for other people's feelings, following protocols and rules, showing appreciation and thanks, and being kind.



The Civility and Respect Project

NALC, SLCC and OVW believe now is the time to put Civility and Respect at the top of the agenda and start a culture change for the local council sector.



**Civility & Respect
for the local
council sector**

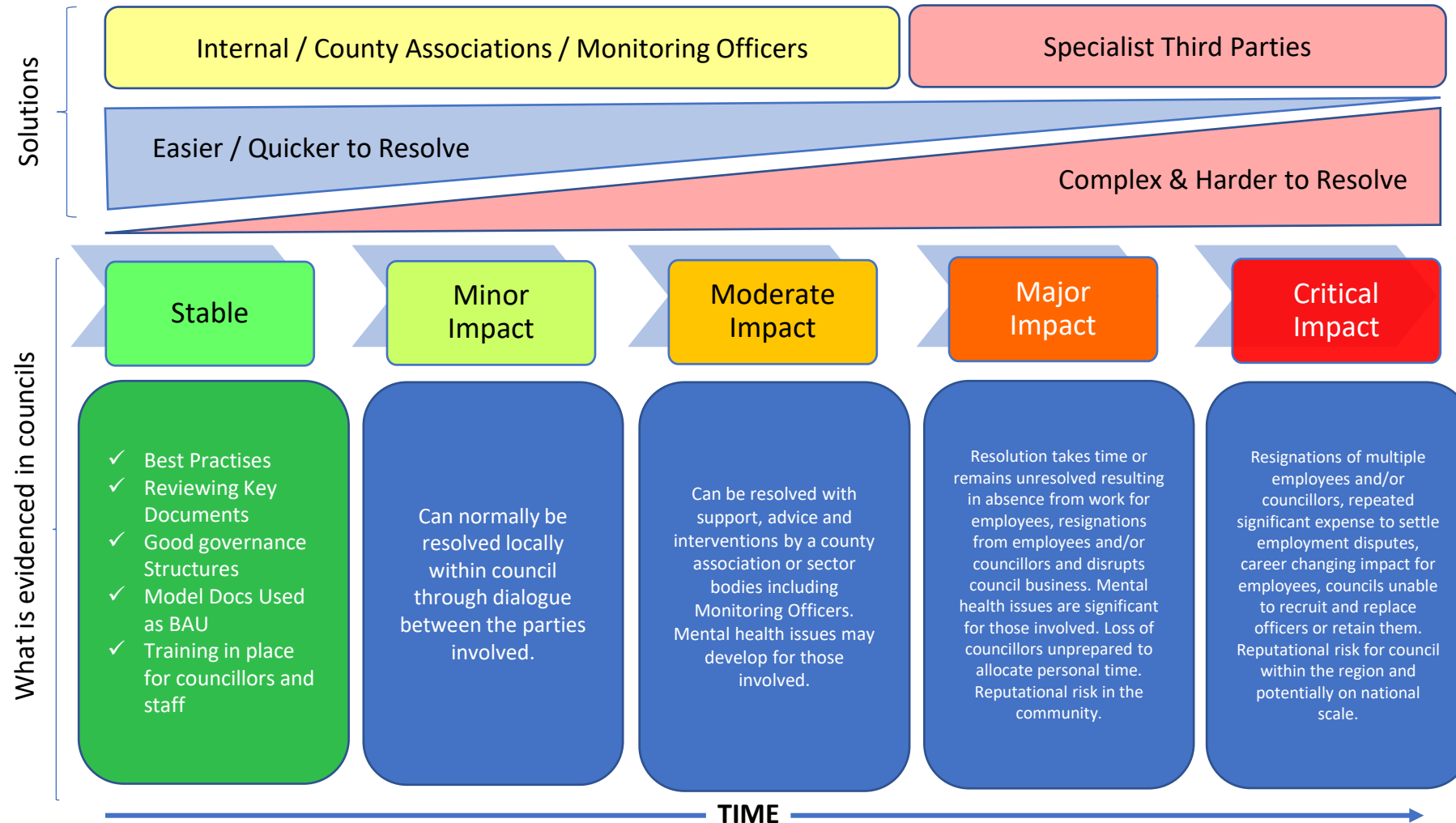
- IS top of the
agenda

Project Aim



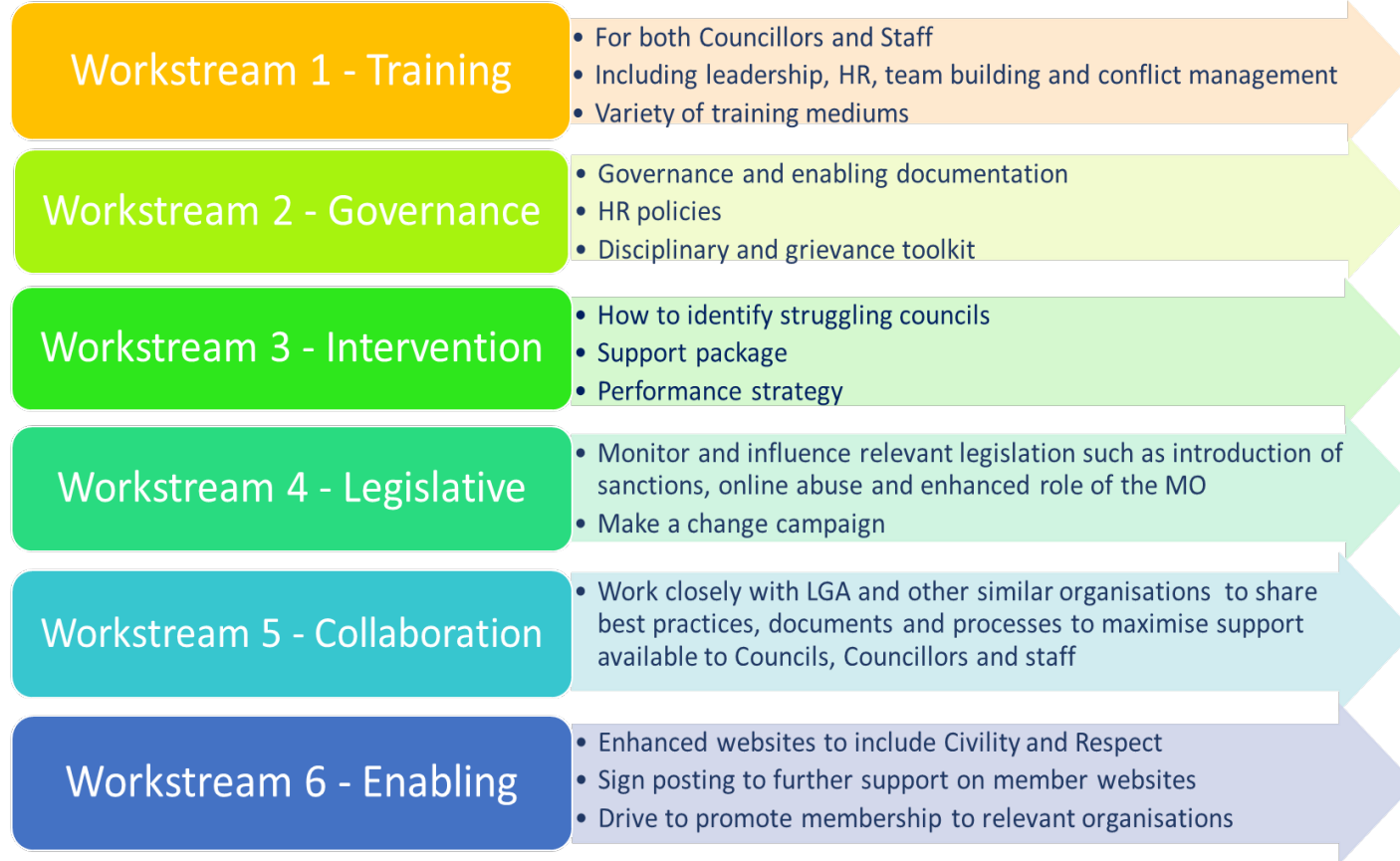
- The Civility and Respect Project is a joint venture between NALC, SLCC, OVW and County Secretaries and has the primary aim of supporting Town and Parish Councils to offer support and avoid Councils getting to the critical stage where issues become unresolvable.
- This Project has identified five categories of councils from Stable, to needing support of various levels, to Critical needs and will be introducing a new programme to support a much-needed Culture Change and thereby improve Civility and Respect in our Sector.
- The Civility and Respect project will support local councils with the availability of training, best practice, examples etc.
- And to signpost professional support and intervention when things go wrong

Scale of issues



Project Team Deliverables

The Civility & Respect Project Team have been putting in place ‘deliverables’, including: support for struggling councils, lobbying to strengthen the standards regime, training for Clerks and Councillors, tools to support good governance.



Call to Action

Call to Action - The Civility Pledge

- SLCC, NALC and OVW are committed to working within their organisations to change the Civility & Respect culture
- The Civility and Respect Project will provide a framework for the culture change needed across our sector
- We are ALL responsible for delivering it.
- We can show our commitment to change by signing up to the Civility & Respect Pledge.

The Pledge:

How WE will make the culture change across our sector

When signing the pledge the Council must agree the following statements.

That the Council:

- ✓ has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff
- ✓ has signed up to the Code of Conduct for Councillors
- ✓ has good governance arrangements in place including staff contracts
- ✓ will Seek professional help at early stages should civility and respect issues arise
- ✓ will commit to calling out bullying and harassment when it happens
- ✓ will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to Being a Role Model / Champion Council e.g., via Local Council Award Scheme
- ✓ supports the continued Lobbying for change in Legislation to support the Civility and Respect pledge including sanctions for elected members where appropriate

Is your Council ready to sign the pledge?

- ✓ Is your council ready to sign the pledge now?
- ✓ What changes do you need to make to be able to sign up to the pledge?
- ✓ What help do you need?
- ✓ And most importantly, are you ready for change?



You can sign up to the pledge here:

- www.slcc.co.uk/news-publications/civility-respect-project/
- www.nalc.gov.uk/respect

Thank you! Any Questions?

Further information is available at:

- www.slcc.co.uk/news-publications/civility-respect-project/
- www.nalc.gov.uk/respect

