

Comparison of Ergonomic Office Furniture: Chairs and Desks

Prepared for Cowbridge Town Council

Date: August 29, 2023

Background Report: Ergonomic Chairs for the Clerks' Office

Introduction: Creating a conducive and comfortable work environment is of utmost importance, especially considering the significant amount of time spent seated during work hours. The Town Council aims to enhance the workspace by introducing ergonomic chairs within the Clerk's Office. This report presents the rationale for this initiative, considering specific health requirements and adherence to safety regulations.

Current Scenario: One of our team members has been granted an Access to Work grant to accommodate additional needs, underscoring the necessity for personalised support. Furthermore, the discomfort experienced by another staff member due to sciatica highlights the adverse effects of inadequate seating on overall well-being and work performance.

Guidance from HSE and Legal Obligations: The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) underscores the significance of appropriate seating arrangements. Employers are mandated to provide secure seating options that mitigate health risks for employees and others utilising the premises.

Salient Points:

1. **Significance of Proper Seating:** In contemporary work settings, extended periods of sitting make ill-suited seating a potential cause of discomfort, back pain, and related health issues.
2. **Financial Implications:** Subpar seating can lead to employee absenteeism, potential legal claims, and decreased productivity, resulting in financial repercussions for both employers and employees.
3. **Legal Duty:** Legal provisions such as the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 stipulate the necessity of ensuring safe seating options, emphasising compliance with the law.

Recommendation: In line with our commitment to employee well-being and in fulfilment of our legal obligations, it is strongly recommended to introduce ergonomic chairs that cater to individual requirements. These chairs promote proper posture and minimise health risks, reflecting the Town Council's unwavering dedication to the health and productivity of its employees.

Conclusion: The introduction of ergonomic chairs within the Clerks' Office underscores our commitment to fostering a positive and productive work environment. Through strict adherence to established guidelines and legal requirements, we aim to improve the well-being of our staff and foster a workspace that prioritises both physical comfort and professional efficiency.

Funding for this initiative could be sourced from the following budgets:

1. 504 Town Hall Equipment:
Sarah-Jane Marshall
Deputy Town Clerk

- Original Budget: £750
- Remaining Balance: £460
- 2. 502 Maintenance Town Hall:
 - Original Budget: £3,000
 - Expenditure to date: £206.00

The purchase of ergonomic chairs will be considered for financing using the available funds from these budgets, ensuring a comfortable and ergonomic workspace for our team while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Comparison of Ergonomic Office Chairs:

Chair Model	Starting Price (GBP, inc. VAT)	Notable Features
Adaptlift Chair	£3,785.00	Tailored comfort with advanced features
BodyBilt B2503 Bariatric Chair	£2,100.00	Specialised ergonomic support for bariatric needs
MaXX Heavy-Duty Ergonomic Chair	£1,701.00–£1,846.00	Durability and comfort for diverse user requirements
Bodybilt J3504 Big & Tall Chair	£1,390.00	Design for big and tall individuals
Bodybilt J2504 Big & Tall Chair	£1,265.00	Ergonomic benefits for larger users
Bodybilt Stretch J2509 Tall Chair	£1,225.00	Tailored support for taller individuals
Adapt 700 Chair	£1,195.00	Affordable ergonomic benefits
RH Logic 400	£1,124.00	Versatile chair with adjustable features
Active Ergonomics FLO 3 Chair High Back	£1,038.00	Balanced support with a high back
Active Ergonomics FLO 2 Chair Medium Back	£1,002.00	Mid-back option for ergonomic advantages

Comparison of Ergonomic Office Desks:

Desk Model	Starting Price (GBP, inc. VAT)	Notable Features
Sedus Temptation Speed Height Adjustable Desk	£1,446.00	Height adjustment for ergonomic customisation
Herman Miller Atlas Sit-Stand Desk	£2,060.00	Sit-stand functionality for dynamic postures
Herman Miller Ratio Electric Height Adjustable Desk	£1,339.00	Electric adjustment for adaptable working heights
Humanscale Float Sit Stand Height Adjustable Desk	£1,580.00	Seamless sit-stand transitions
Herman Miller Mode Desk	£972.40	Affordable ergonomic workspace
Sedus Turn Around High Desk Chair	£879.00	Movement and ergonomic support
Herman Miller Abak Environments Desk	£649.00	Functional workspace with Herman Miller quality
Senator Chemistry Height Adjustable Single Desk	Pricing N/A	Ergonomic adaptability for individual preferences

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Furniture	Starting Price (GBP, inc. VAT)
Lavoro Cromo Electric Desk	£803.60
Herman Miller Aeron Chair (Size B)	£832.50

By selecting the Lavoro Cromo Electric Desk and Herman Miller Aeron Chairs, the Cowbridge Town Council can establish a workspace that prioritises health, comfort, and productivity for its employees.

