

Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23

Water Orton Parish Council

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During the financial year ended 31 March 2023, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2022/23 has been carried out in accordance with this authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this authority.

Internal control objective	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.		✓	
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.		✓	
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.		NO PETTY CASH KEPT	✓
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.		✓	
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.		✓	
I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2021/22, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2021/22 AGAR tick "not covered")			✓
L. The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.	✓		
M. In the year covered by this AGAR, the authority correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (during the 2022-23 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2021-22 AGAR evidenced by a notice on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).	✓		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2021/22 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).	✓		
O. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.			✓

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

07/02/2023

02/05/2023

DD/MM/YYYY

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

Kim Squires NAME OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

KSquires

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date

02/05/2023

*If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

**Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned; or, if coverage is not required, the annual internal audit report must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).

(This document is a supplement to page 3 of 6 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return ("AGAR") 2022/23 Form 3 and is intended to be read and published with that document). Copies of this document must be displayed with the AGAR and forwarded to the External Auditor.

Internal Control Objective	Response	Reason for 'No'/Not covered response
A Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	YES	
B This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	NO	Payments were made outside of meetings before approval had been received from the Council. Only payments made under delegated authority are now paid outside of meetings. The previous bank accounts did not have dual authorisation but a new account with Unity Trust has been opened and Lloyds account closed.
C This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	NO	A statement of Internal Controls was presented to the Council for consideration but was deferred and has not yet been properly considered. The Risk Management document has not been fully reviewed in the year but will be considered in June.
D The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate	YES	
E Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for	YES	
F Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for	Not covered	No petty cash kept
G Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	NO	The authority had been incorrectly classified by the payroll provider as a small business. Consequently, the authority had been receiving an employment allowance, impacting NI payments to HMRC, to which it was not entitled. This only came to light upon the appointment of the present Clerk in December 2022. Repayments may impact Box 4 in 2023/24 AGAR
H Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained	NO	The Asset Register had previously shown insurance values and consequently did not reflect the acquisition values of the assets held by the Council. The Clerk has

		begun to create an accurate asset register.
I Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	YES	
J Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	YES	
K If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2021/22, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2021/22 AGAR tick "not covered")	Not covered	
L The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.	YES	
M In the year covered by this AGAR, the authority correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (during the 2022-23 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2021-22 AGAR evidenced by a notice on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).	YES	
N The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2021/22 AGAR.	YES	
O (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	N/A	