

HASKETON PARISH COUNCIL
2025-26 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS

Section 1 – Financial Regulation and Standing Orders.

Has the Council properly tailored the Financial Regulations? NO

COMMENT:

RECOMMENDATION: Where [] are in place the Financial Regulations are to be tailored to the council's needs.

I have reviewed the current document published on the website and amended it in line with the comments made regarding bracketed areas.

Section 12 – Assertion 10

The internal auditor will be checking that the council complies to the new assertion 10 introduced to the Annual Governance Accountability and Return (AGAR) following changes to the Practitioners' Guide 2025.

Does the council have an IT policy that is tailored to the council? NO

COMMENT: The council is yet to adopt an IT policy.

RECOMMENDATION: To be fully compliant with assertion 10 of the annual return, It is recommended that the Council review and adopt an IT Policy and publish on the website at its earliest opportunity.

Whilst there is a policy within the current - DATA PROTECTION & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT POLICY the Council has not addressed the specific requirement assertion 10.

SAPPP [Smaller authorities proper practice panel] set out best practice in July 2025 in relation to Assertion 10 – digital and data compliance. In consultation with SALC I have produced an abbreviated version of an IT Policy for 2026 to be posted on the Parish website.

Has website accessibility been tested, at least annually? NO

COMMENT: To ensure that the council website complies with the regulations, it is best practice to test for website accessibility at least annually, this was last detailed as actioned November 2024.

Suffolk Cloud has recently changed to PEAR SPACE and statements will be amended in due course. WEBSITE states- We tested against WCAG 2.2AA to ensure site compliance in November 2024.

25/05/26 S LECKIE Hasketon Clerk.