


INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE FOR ASKERN TOWN COUNCIL

AUDIT PROGRAMME – PERIOD ENDING : 31 MARCH 2023.....

I certify that I have carried out the tests detailed below in accordance with the suggested approach contained in the 2011 edition of "Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales – A Practitioners Guide".

Signed 

Date 15/6/2023

Name & qualifications MR. ANDREW BOSMANS BA. (HONS)

1 Internal Control	2 Tests	3 Initial Yes	4 Initial No	5 Comments-date checked
Previous Internal Audit Report	Do the minutes record that Council has considered the Internal Audit Report for the previous year and the matters arising addressed?	d		NEEDS TO BE MINUTED - INTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTED YEARLY AT ANNUAL MEETING
Proper bookkeeping	Is the cashbook maintained and up to date?	d		
	Is the cashbook arithmetically correct?	d		
	Is the cashbook regularly balanced?	d		MONTHLY
Standing Orders and Financial Regulations	Has the Council formally adopted Standing Orders and Financial Regulations?	d		APPROVED AGM 2022
	Has a Responsible Financial Officer been appointed?	d		
	Have items or services above a de minimis amount been competitively purchased?	d		
	Are payments in the cashbook supported by invoices and have they been authorised and minuted?	d		
	Has VAT on payments been identified, recorded and reclaimed?	d		CLAIMED TWICE 22-23
	Is Section 137 expenditure separately recorded and within statutory limits?	d		
Risk Management Arrangements	Does a scan of the minutes identify any unusual activity?		d	

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Risk Management Arrangements (contd)	Do the minutes record the Council carrying out an annual risk assessment?	✓		ANNUAL MEETING 2022
	Is insurance cover appropriate and adequate?	✓		
	Are internal financial controls documented and regularly reviewed?	✓		
Budgetary Controls	Has the Council prepared an annual budget in support of its precept?	✓		
	Is actual expenditure against the budget regularly reported to Council?	✓		
	Are any significant variances from budget explained?	✓		
Income Controls	Is income properly recorded and promptly banked?	✓		
	Does the precept recorded in the cashbook agree to the Council Tax Authority's notification?	✓		
	Are security controls over cash adequate and effective?	✓		
Petty Cash Procedures	Is petty cash spent recorded, and supported by receipts?	✓		} TO BE ABOLISHED DEBIT CARDS USED
	Is petty cash expenditure reported to each Council Meeting?	✓		
	Is petty cash reimbursement carried out regularly?	✓		
Payroll Controls	Do salaries paid agree with those approved by Council?	✓		CONSISTENT
	Are any other payments to the Clerk/other staff reasonable and approved by Council	✓		

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Payroll Controls (contd)	Has PAYE/NIC been properly operated by the Council as an employer?	✓		
Assets Controls	Do all employees have contracts of employment with clear terms + conditions?	✓		
	Does the Council keep an Assets Register of all material assets owned?	✓		
	Are the Assets & Investments Register up to date?	✓		
	Do asset insurance valuations agree with those in the Asset Register?	✓		
Bank Reconciliation	Is there bank reconciliation for each bank account?	✓		
	Is the bank reconciliation carried out regularly on the receipt of statements?	✓		MONTHLY
	Are there any unexplained balancing entries in any reconciliation? Is the value of investments summarised on the reconciliation?		✓	
Year-End Procedures	Are year-end accounts prepared on the correct accounting basis?	✓		
	Do accounts agree with the cashbook?	✓		
	Is there an audit trail from underlying financial records to the accounts?	✓		
	Where appropriate, have debtors and creditors been properly recorded?	✓		

EXCELLENT AUDIT TRAIL - ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT ISSUES - PARTICULARLY LIKED "USER FRIENDLY" WEBSITE AND CLERK APPEARS TO BE SETTLING IN WELL -

WOULD

RECOMMEND MORE FINANCIAL TRAINING AS RFO ✓