

Annual Internal Audit Report 2018/19

SANDHUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

This authority's internal auditor, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls to be in operation during the financial year ended 31 March 2019.

The internal audit for 2018/19 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	Agreed? Please choose one of the following		
	Yes	No	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
I. Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2017/18, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. ("Not Covered" should only be ticked where the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2017/18 AGAR)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
L. During summer 2018 this authority has correctly provided the proper opportunity for the exercise of public rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.			Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
M. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

07/05/19

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

GORDON FLETCHER

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

G. Fletcher (C.M.I.A.)

Date

09/05/19

*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).

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

We acknowledge as the members of:

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our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019, that:

	Agreed		This means that this authority:
	Yes	No	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has met all of its responsibilities where as a body corporate it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

*For any statement to which the response is 'no', an explanation should be published

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

16/05/2019

and recorded as minute reference:

19/48

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

P. Kane - SIGNED

Clerk

John - SIGNED

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19 for

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	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2018 £	31 March 2019 £	
1. Balances brought forward	8671	7735	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	3600	3600	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	216	60	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	1953	2617	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	2800	1153	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	7735	7624	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	8351	7747	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	4277	4373	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWUL).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	The Council as a body corporate acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
		✓	N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2019 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority. Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

Date

30th April 2019

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

16/05/2019

as recorded in minute reference:

19/49

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

Dkane

Reconciliation between Box 7 and Box 8 in Section 1 - pro forma
(applies to Annual Returns prepared on an income and expenditure basis only)

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There should only be a difference between Box 7 and Box 8 where the Annual Return has been prepared on an income and expenditure basis and there have been adjustments for debtors/prepayments and creditors/receipts in advance at the year end. Please provide details of the year end adjustments, showing how the net difference between them is equal to the difference

Box 7: Balances carried forward		£	£
			7,624
Deduct:	Debtors		
	• Sundry Debtors	0	
	• HMRC VAT due	10	
		10	
Deduct:	Payments made in advance (prepayments)		
	• Pre payments	0	
Total Deductions:		0	10
Add:	Creditors		
	Staff Costs	0	
	Clerk reimbursement - Exp	0	
	Payroll Services	8	
	Internal Audit	125	
		133	
Add: Receipts in advance		0	
Total Additions:			133
Box 8: Total cash and short term investments			7,747

Bank Reconciliation - proforma

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Financial year ending 31st March 2019

Prepared by Sue Fraser, Clerk

Date: 31/03/2019

Balance per bank statements as at 31st March 2019

	£	£
Treasurer Account	4090	
Money Manager Account	<u>3657</u>	
		<u>7747</u>
Petty Cash float (if applicable)		0

Less: any un-presented cheques @ 31st March 2019

Add: any un-banked cash at 31st March 2019 0

Net balances as at 31st March 2019 7747

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

CASH BOOK:

Opening Balance 1st April 2019 (Prior year Box 8)	8351
Add: Receipts in the year	3688
Less: Payments in the year	<u>4292</u>
Closing balance per cash book (receipts and payments book) as	<u>7747</u>

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Explanation of variances - pro forma for local councils

The NALC/SLCC 'Practitioner' Guide (paragraph 2.15 onwards) provides guidance on explaining significant variances. Please provide explanations for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200)
- if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2)

Section 1	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	Variance £	Variance % £	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 Precept	3600	3600	0	0%	n/a
Box 3 Other receipts	216	60	-156	-260%	Other income relates to Vat from purchases. No large purchases made.
Box 4 Staff costs	1953	2649	696	26%	Difference in the salary payments relates to overtime payments to meet GDPR and cost of living rise
Box 5 Loan interest/ capital repayments	0	0	0	0%	n/a
Box 6 Other payments	2799	1122	-1677	-149%	Expenditure is less as a large payment was made last financial year for Amenities and Repairs.
Box 9 Fixed assets & long term assets	4277	4373	96	2%	n/a
Box 10 Borrowings	0	0	0	0%	n/a
Explanation for 'high reserves'	Monies are reserved for tree works and pending decision regarding the installation of Speeding Signage.				