

Responses and actions to the questions asked in the Annual Governance Statement were the local authority has answered no

No	Description	Authority submitted 'no' to the questions asked	Reason for the authority submitting no	Actions taken to improve
1	We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during this year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements	Prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the accounts and audit regulations	All finances during this financial year where not being produced	The parish council during this financial year had no trained RFO and the accounts where being carried out by a former councillor, the parish council now employ a qualified CILCA clerk / RFO. The council now produced monthly bank reconciliations, quarterly budget monitoring and a cashbook throughout the year to ensure the parish council are compliant with the accounts and audit regulations. The approved bank reconciliations and budget monitoring is now made public on the council's website for full transparency
2	We maintained an adequate system for internal control including measures designed to prevent fraud and corruption and reviews its effectiveness	Made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding public money and resources in its charge	Relevant policies in relation to financial risk management where not adopted and finance reports where not being approved by the parish council during their meetings, nor was this document cross referenced with a bank statement	The council have already made improvements to this by adopting financial risk management policies to ensure the safeguarding of its monies. The council now at all meetings receive a copy of the bank statement which is cross referenced against the bank reconciliation produced by the Clerk / RFO to ensure no corruption or fraud is taking place
3	We took all reasonable steps to ensure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or	Has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied	The finances were being managed by a councillor with no experience, no financial risk	The parish council have closely liaised with the external auditor regarding the previous issues / concerns raised

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	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	with proper practices in doing so	management policies were being followed by the council	regarding the finances of Irby Upon Humber and based on their support working with the Clerk / RFO the council now understand what needs to be adhered to
4	We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of elector's rights in accordance with the requirements of the accounts and audit regulations	During the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the authority's accounts	This was during the previous Clerks / RFO employment, however communications would suggest this wasn't being adhered to	All approved accounts will now be visible on the parish council website which will enforce transparency of the councils' finances, which has been a historical concern. Any questions raised for the new financial year will be dealt with in a timely manor
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	Considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly	No review on the councils insurance policy and no internal policies identifying the risks	The council have now adopted a wide selection of policies and procedures to ensure any risks identified are dealt with in accordance with approved policies
6	We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective systems of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems	Arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal	An independent internal auditor was appointed; however no internal controls were being adhered to. The council was not approving at each meeting a schedule of payments, nor the receipts and payments	As previously stated, more detailed documentation is now being produced, approved by the full council and then being published on the council's website.

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		controls meet the needs of this smaller authority		
7	We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audits	Respond to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit	The parish council have not addressed any issues until I was appointed in April 2025	The parish council have close communications with both the internal and external auditor to ensure what issues need addressing for the new financial year
8	We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after year end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements	Disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant	The parish council prior to my appointment was not transparent. The website did not provide any information regarding its day to day finance transactions	The parish council now have a new user friendly website and the Clerk /RFO continuously uploads information to improve transparency