

Explanation regarding Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/26

Internal Control Objective

O. The authority has complied with laws, regulations & proper practices relating to digital and data compliance.

The internal auditor has indicated 'No'.

The detailed internal audit report recommended that 'to be fully compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation requirements, council should ensure that all adopted policies are reviewed on a cyclical basis thereby demonstrating that its data processing activities align with the latest legislative requirements and that corrective action is being taken to mitigate any risks that might be forthcoming.

The Parish Council had approved a new IT Policy at its meeting on 12 February 26 but due to an administrative error, this was not uploaded correctly to our website at the time the audit was conducted. The auditor did ask the Clerk whether the Information Security Policy that was on the website and last reviewed in 2021, had been updated and the reply was that it hadn't. In fact, this policy had been replaced with the new IT Policy and should have been removed from the website in February 26 when the new IT Policy should have been added. This has now been corrected.

The Data Protection and Information Policy 2021 has also now been updated and will be approved by the Parish Council at its next meeting on 4 June 2026.