

Annual Internal Audit Report 2017/18

SALICHOAST AND ROBERTSBIDGE 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 2018.

The internal audit for 2017/18 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.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	✓		
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.	✓		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I. Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	✓		
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.	✓		

K. (For local councils only)	Yes	No	Not applicable
Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.			✓

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

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

14.06.18

Debra Stevens

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

Debra Stevens

Date

15.06.18

*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).

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SALEHURST AND ROBERTSBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Internal Audit – 31st March 2018

Introduction:

1: In accordance with my Internal Audit Plan, Controls and Procedures have been tested, with Fraud and Risk Issues reviewed - these are well managed, in line with the Governance and Accountability for Local Councils Practitioners' Guide (GALCP) and meet the needs of the Council. I confirm that I do not have any role within the Council and will carry out my duties without bias. I would only comment by exception – the points listed below need further attention:

Audit:

2: End of Year Accounts 2017/2018 – The accounts are accurately presented and easy to understand. Income and Expenditure is properly recorded and the information produced is accurate and comprehensive. Bank reconciliations take place, are checked against the supporting documents and were found to be correct. Figures in the end of year return are supported by the accounts.

3: Standing Orders/Financial Regulations – A review of both the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations is highly recommended.

4: Staff Wages – It was noted the Council has undertaken a review of the Clerk's hours since the last audit and they have been adjusted as a result. A payroll package is recommended as the Council employs three or more staff.

5: It is worth noting that the figures have been produced by the Clerk in accordance with the requirements and all supporting documents have been produced for the Internal Auditor. The Clerk's co-operation aided considerably the work of this internal audit. Thank you.

Alison Stevens, FILCM
Internal Auditor
14th June 2018