

Internal Audit Report

(to be read in conjunction with the Annual Internal Audit Report in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Name of council:	Weldon Parish Council		
Name of Internal Auditor:	Julia Tufnail	Date of report:	1 st June 2021
Year ending:	31 March 2021	Date audit carried out:	1 st June 2021

Internal audit is the periodic independent review of a council's internal controls resulting in an assurance report designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities and operating procedures under the council's control. Managing the council's internal controls should be a day-to-day function of the council through its staff and management and not left for internal audit. It would be incorrect to view internal audit as the detailed inspection of all records and transactions of a council in order to detect error or fraud. This report is based on the evidence made available to me and consequently the report is limited to those matters set out below.

The council is required to take appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit and to respond to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit. Failure to take appropriate action may lead to a qualified audit opinion.

To the Chairman of the Council:

I would like to thank your Clerk, Sue, for her time and assistance during this year's audit which was conducted remotely using the NCALC checklist. It is noted that the Council uses a receipts and payments basis for its accounts and does not use the General Power of Competence but that the Council's power to act is clearly shown. I note that last year's Report has been acted upon and that the Council has a new website which is easy to navigate, uses a financial package for its accounts has changed banks and uses internet banking now for payments and agreed the Internal Control arrangements in July 2020 with monthly reporting now taking place and new policies and procedures agreed throughout the year. Standing Orders should be reviewed and re-adopted annually.

I have conducted an audit trail spot check and am happy to confirm that all matters appear to be in good order during the year.

Yours sincerely

Julia Tufnail

NCALC Internal Auditor

The figures submitted in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return are:

	Year 31 March 2020 ending	Year 31 March 2021 ending
1. Balances brought forward	129350	167407
2. Annual precept	100000	99000
3. Total other receipts	1635	44085
4. Staff costs	10695	16286
5. Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0
6. Total other payments	52883	175582
7. Balances carried forward	167407	118624
8. Total cash and investments	167407	118624
9. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	234828	235259
10. Total borrowings	0	0

The proper practices referred to in Accounts and Audit Regulations are set out in *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England (2020)*. It is a guide to the accounting practices to be followed by local councils and it sets out the appropriate standard of financial reporting to be followed. A copy of the guide is available for free download from:

<https://www.northantscalc.com/uploads/practitioners-guide-2020-2.pdf>