



Batheaston Parish Council

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Explanations for Weaknesses acknowledged in the Submission

Internal Audit: Control Objective C: "This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these".

Internal Auditor Reason: "There is no risk register in place"

Internal Audit: Control Objective H: "Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained".

Internal Auditor Reason: "The value of the assets has increased. This is mainly due to increased insurance value. Assets should be recorded at their original purchase costs or, if a nominal value, at £1."

Internal Audit: Control Objective L: "The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation"

Internal Auditor Reason: "Previous AGAR information goes back to 2018/19. This does not meet the 5-year requirement hence Box L has a no tick."

Annual Governance Statement: Assurance No. 5

In response to this statement: "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", Council resolved that it could not give assurance that it had "considered and documented the financial and other risks that it faces and dealt with them properly"

Explanation:

- Although risks have been assessed and managed for specific events, and purposes, this has been undertaken on an ad hoc basis. Council has not yet developed and implemented a comprehensive and overarching policy for risk management.

Planned actions to address this failing:

- A Councillor will be nominated to work with the Clerk to review the Risk Management Policy and processes, and to undertake any outstanding risk assessments.

Cllr Hannah Squire
Chair of Batheaston Parish Council

Richard Maccabee
Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer