

FINEDON TOWN COUNCIL FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT 2021/22

Risk assessment is a systematic general examination of working conditions, workplace activities and environmental factors that will enable the Town Council to identify any and all potential inherent risks. The Town Council, based on a recorded assessment, will take all practical and necessary steps to reduce or eliminate the risks, in so far as is practically possible.

This document has been produced to enable Finedon Town Council to assess the risks that it faces and satisfy itself that it has taken adequate steps to minimise them.

FINANICAL AND MANAGEMENT

Subject	Risks(s) indentified	H / M / L	Management / Control of Risk	Review / Assess / Revise
Precept	Adequacy of precept in order for the Council to carry out its Statutory duties	L	To determine the precept amount required, the Council appoints a Precept + Budget working party each year. The working party receives a budget report, including actual position and projection position to the end of year and indicative figures or costings obtained by the Clerk. With this information the Council maps out the required monies for standing costs and projects for the following year and applies specific figures to budget headings, the total of which is resolved to be the precept amount to be requested from North Northamptonshire Council. The figure is submitted by the Clerk in writing.	Existing procedure adequate
Financial Records	Inadequate records Financial irregularities	L L	The Council has Financial Regulations which sets out the requirements	Existing procedure adequate. Review the Financial Regulations when necessary
Bank and Banking	Inadequate checks Banks mistakes	L L	The Council has Financial Regulations which set out banking requirements. Monthly Reconciliation	Existing Procedure adequate

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Reporting and auditing	Information communication	L	Budget Analysis is given at every full Council meeting to include bank balances and bank reconciliation	Existing procedures adequate
Grants	Receipt of Grant	L	Town Council does not presently receive any regular grants	Procedure would be formed, if required
Charges-rents receivable	Payment	L	Town Council receives burial ground fees on an ad hoc basis and a wayleave annual payment. Town Council receives rent income from the Tennis Club by an annual payment.	Existing procedure adequate
Grants and support payable	Power to pay Authorisation of Council to pay	L	All such expenditure goes through the required Council process of approval, minuted and listed on accounts payable schedule	Existing procedure adequate
Best value accountability	Work awarded incorrectly Overspend on services	L M	Normal Town Council practice would to seek 3 quotations for any substantial work to be undertaken. For major work competitive traders would be sought. If problems encountered with a contract the Clerk would investigate the situation and report to the Council.	Existing procedure adequate Include when reviewing Financial Regulations
Salaries and assoc. costs	Salary paid incorrectly. Unpaid Tax to Inland Revenue	L L	Payroll and all taxations liabilities are to be dealt with by the Clerk. Clerk to ensure payment of all tax liabilities are made.	Existing procedure adequate
Employees	Fraud by staff Health and Safety	L L	Requirements of Fidelity Guarantee insurance adhered to with regards to fraud. All employees to be provided adequate direction and safety equipment needed to undertake their roles.	Existing procedure adequate Monitor Health and Safety requirements and insurance annually.
VAT	Reclaiming/Charging	L	The Council has Financial Regulations which sets out the requirements. Quartely VAT claims to be made.	Existing procedure adequate.

Annual Return	Submit within time limits	L	Annual Return completed and signed by the Council, submitted to internal auditor for completion and signing them checked and sent to External Auditor within time frame.	Existing procedures adequate
Legal Powers	Illegal activity or payments	L	All activity and payments within the powers of the Town Council to be resolved at Full Council Meetings	Existing procedures adequate
Minutes/agendas/Notices Statutory Notices	Accuracy and Legality	L	Minutes and agenda are produced in the prescribed manner by the Clerk and adhere to the legal requirements. Minutes are approved and signed at the next Council meeting. Minutes and agendas displayed according to legal requirements. Business conducted at Council meetings should be managed by the Chair	Existing procedures adequate
	Business conduct	L		Members adhere to Code of Conduct
Members Interests	Conflict of interests	L	Declarations of interest by members at Council meetings	Existing procedures adequate
	Register or members interests	M	Register of members interests forms reviewed regularly	Members take responsibility to update register
Insurance	Adequacy	L	An annual review is undertaken of all insurance arrangements Employers and Employee liabilities a necessity and within policies. Ensure compliance measures are in place. Fidelity checks in place	Existing procedure adequate Insurance reviewed annually
	Cost	L		
	Compliance	L		
	Fidelity Guarantee	M		
Data Protection	Policy Provision	L	The Town Council is registered with the Information Commissioners Office	Ensure annual renewal of registration
Freedom of Information	Policy Provision	L	The Council has a Model Publication scheme in place. To date there has been no request under FOI.	Monitor any requests made under FOI.

PHYSICAL EQUIPMENT OR AREAS				
Assets	Loss or damage Risk/damage to third party (ies) property	L L	An annual review of assets is undertaken for insurance provision	Existing procedures adequate
Maintenance	Poor performance of assets or amenities	L	All assets owned by the Town Council are regularly reviewed and maintained. All repairs and relevant expenditure for any repair is actioned/authorised in accordance with the correct procedures of the Town Council. Assets are insured	Existing procedures adequate
Notice Board	Risk of damage	L	The Town Council has one notice board. No formal inspection procedures are in place but any reports of damage and faults are reported to the Town Council and dealt with in accordance of the correct procedures of the Council	Existing procedures adequate
Meeting Locations	Adequacy Health and Safety	L M	The Town Council meeting is held in a venue considered to have appropriate facilities for the Clerk, members and the general public	Existing procedures adequate
Council records – paper	Loss through Theft Fire Damage	L M L	The Town Council records are stored in a locked cupboard at the Town Hall/ at the home of the Clerk. Records include historical correspondences, minutes, insurance, bank records.	Damage (apart from fire) and theft is unlikely and so provision is adequate.
Council records – electronic	Loss through Theft, fire damage or corruption of computer	L M	The Town Council electronic records are stored on the Council laptop held with the Clerk at their home. Back-ups of electronic data is made at regular intervals	Existing procedures considered adequate. Cloud Based storage to be investigated.

Approved by the Town Council on: - 20 April 2022