

Roydon Parish Council

Review of Effectiveness of Internal Control

**Review carried out at meeting held on
25th February 2026**

Next Review - February 2027

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015:

1. The relevant body shall be responsible for ensuring that the financial management of the body is adequate and effective and that the body has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effectiveness exercise of that body's functions and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.
2. The relevant body shall conduct a review at least once a year of the effectiveness of its system of internal control in accordance with the Internal Control Policy.

Internal Control:

The system of internal control is designed to reduce the financial risk of the Parish Council to an acceptable level.

Financial Management:

The Parish Council has approved a set of Financial Regulations which set out the way that the Council's finances are to be managed. These are reviewed and approved annually.

Two Councillors, out of four named signatories, must sign all cheques and authorise BACS payments and other financial documents. The Clerk may not authorise payments (except in an emergency), but may carry out transfers within the Parish Council's bank accounts.

The cheque signatory shall check the supporting document at the time of signing, to ensure that the cheque agrees with the amount of the invoice and the payee named on the invoice. The cheque stub and the invoice should also be initialled to record that the name on the information is the same as that on the cheque.

Regularly throughout the year and at the year-end, the Chair shall ensure that the cash book totals are reconciled to bank statements and shall sign the sign these statements as evidence of this check.

The Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer is responsible for the day-to-day financial management of the Council. The duties of the Responsible Financial Officer are approved once a year. The Clerk shall report all payments to the Council.

In January, the Council shall review the budget in detail and shall decide on the precept for the forthcoming year.

Internal Audit

The Council will appoint an independent and competent internal auditor to carry out an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. The auditor reports their findings to the full Council and completes Section 4 of the Annual Return.

External Audit

The Council's external auditors complete Section 3 of the Annual Return; their comments and recommendations are reported to the full Council.

Review

This review shall be carried out annually and recorded in the Council's minutes.