

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 Part 3

To be completed by Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities*:

- where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure exceeded £25,000 but did not exceed £6.5 million; or
- where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less but:
 - are unable to certify themselves as exempt (fee payable); or
 - have requested a limited assurance review (fee payable)

Guidance notes on completing Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19

1. Every smaller authority in England that either received gross income or incurred gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 **must** complete Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return at the end of each financial year in accordance with Proper Practices.
2. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return is made up of three parts, pages 3 to 6:
 - The annual internal audit report is completed by the authority's internal auditor.
 - Sections 1 and 2 are to be completed and approved by the authority.
 - Section 3 is completed by the external auditor and will be returned to the authority.
3. The authority **must** approve Section 1, Annual Governance Statement, before approving Section 2, Accounting Statements, and both **must** be approved and published **before 1 July 2019**.
4. An authority with either gross income or gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 or an authority with neither income nor expenditure exceeding £25,000, but which is unable to certify itself as exempt, or is requesting a limited assurance review, **must** return to the external auditor by email or post (not both):
 - the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Sections 1 and 2, together with
 - a bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2019
 - an explanation of any significant year on year variances in the accounting statements
 - notification of the commencement date of the period for the exercise of public rights
 - Annual Internal Audit Report 2018/19

Unless requested, do not send any additional documents to your external auditor. Your external auditor will ask for any additional documents needed.

Once the external auditor has completed the review and is able to give an opinion on the limited assurance review, the Annual Governance and Accountability **Section 1, Section 2 and Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate** will be returned to the authority by email or post.

Publication Requirements

Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, authorities must publish the following information on a publicly accessible website:

Before 1 July 2019 authorities **must** publish:

- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and a declaration that the accounting statements are as yet unaudited;
- **Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2018/19**, approved and signed, page 4
- **Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2018/19**, approved and signed, page 5

Not later than 30 September 2019 authorities **must** publish:

- Notice of conclusion of audit
- **Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate**
- **Sections 1 & 2 of AGAR** including any amendments as a result of the limited assurance review.

It is recommended as best practice, to avoid any potential confusion by local electors and interested parties, that you also publish the Annual Internal Audit Report, page 3.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return constitutes the annual return referred to in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. Throughout, the words 'external auditor' have the same meaning as the words 'local auditor' in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

*for a complete list of bodies that may be smaller authorities refer to schedule 2 to the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Guidance notes on completing Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19

- The authority **must** comply with *Proper Practices* in completing Sections 1 and 2 of this Annual Governance and Accountability Return. *Proper Practices* are found in the *Practitioners' Guide** which is updated from time to time and contains everything needed to prepare successfully for the financial year-end and the subsequent work by the external auditor.
- Make sure that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is complete (i.e. no empty highlighted boxes), and is properly signed and dated. Where amendments are made by the authority to the AGAR after it has been approved by the authority and before it has been reviewed by the external auditor, the Chairman and RFO should initial the amendments and if necessary republish the amended AGAR and recommence the period for the exercise of public rights. If the Annual Governance and Accountability Return contains unapproved or unexplained amendments, it may be returned and additional costs will be incurred.
- The authority **should** receive and note the annual internal audit report if possible prior to approving the annual governance statement and before approving the accounts.
- Use the checklist provided below to review the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for completeness before returning it to the external auditor by email or post (not both).
- Do not send the external auditor any information not specifically requested. However, **you must inform your external auditor about any change of Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer or Chairman, and provide relevant email addresses and telephone numbers.**
- Make sure that the copy of the bank reconciliation to be sent to your external auditor with the Annual Governance and Accountability Return covers all the bank accounts. If the authority holds any short-term investments, note their value on the bank reconciliation. The external auditor must be able to agree the bank reconciliation to Box 8 on the accounting statements (**Section 2, page 5**). An explanation **must** be provided of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8. More help on bank reconciliation is available in the *Practitioners' Guide**.
- Explain fully significant variances in the accounting statements on **page 5**. Do not just send a copy of the detailed accounting records instead of this explanation. The external auditor wants to know that you understand the reasons for all variances. Include complete numerical and narrative analysis to support the full variance.
- If the external auditor has to review unsolicited information, or receives an incomplete bank reconciliation, or variances are not fully explained, additional costs may be incurred.
- Make sure that the accounting statements add up and that the balance carried forward from the previous year (Box 7 of 2018) equals the balance brought forward in the current year (Box 1 of 2019).
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), on behalf of the authority, **must** set the period for the exercise of public rights. From the commencement date for a single period of 30 consecutive working days, the approved accounts and accounting records can be inspected. Whatever period the RFO sets it **must** include a common inspection period – during which the accounts and accounting records of all smaller authorities must be available for public inspection – of the first ten working days of July.
- The authority **must** publish the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, including the period for the exercise of public rights and the name and address of the external auditor **before 1 July 2019**.

Completion checklist – 'No' answers mean you may not have met requirements		Yes	No
All sections	Have all highlighted boxes have been completed?	✓	
	Has all additional information requested, including the dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights , been provided for the external auditor?	✓	
Internal Audit Report	Have all highlighted boxes been completed by the internal auditor and explanations provided?	✓	
Section 1	For any statement to which the response is 'no', is an explanation provided?	✓	
Section 2	Has the authority's approval of the accounting statements been confirmed by the signature of the Chairman of the approval meeting?	✓	
	Has an explanation of significant variations from last year to this year been provided?	✓	
	Has the bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2019 been reconciled to Box 8?	✓	
	Has an explanation of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8 been provided?	N/A	
Sections 1 and 2	Trust funds – have all disclosures been made if the authority as a body corporate is a sole managing trustee? NB: do not send trust accounting statements unless requested.	N/A	

**Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices*, can be downloaded from www.nalc.gov.uk or from www.ada.org.uk

Bury 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 2019.

The internal audit for 2018/19 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. IF the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2017/18, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (<i>'Not Covered' should only be ticked where the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2017/18 AGAR</i>)			✓
L. During summer 2018 this authority has correctly provided the proper opportunity for the exercise of public rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.			Not applicable ✓
M. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			✓

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

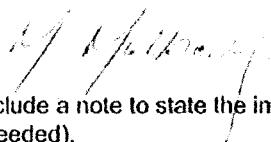
Date(s) internal audit undertaken

16/07/2019

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

Mark Muberry (BA Hons) FCCA CTA

Signature of person who
carried out the internal audit



Date

16/07/2019

*If the response is 'no' you must include a note to 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).

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

We acknowledge as the members of:

BURY PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019, that:

	Agreed		‘Yes’ means that this authority
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.		✓	<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors’ rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority’s accounts.</i>
5. 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.		✓	<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.		✓	<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.		✓	<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓

*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each ‘No’ response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets should be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

19th AUGUST 2019

and recorded as minute reference:

12 / AUGUST

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

Clerk




Other information required by the Transparency Codes (not part of Annual Governance Statement)

Authority web address

<https://sites.google.com/view/buryparishcouncil/bury-parish-council>

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19 for

BURY PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2018 £	31 March 2019 £	
1. Balances brought forward	33,169	29,124 29,214	Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records. Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	25,173	25,173	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	31,967	20,527	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	15,175	9,791	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	2,074	2,074	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	43,847	33,832	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	29,124 29,214	29,217	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	29,124 29,214	29,217	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	734,071	734,071	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	12,126	10,640	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
		✓	N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2019 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

PS Ric

Date

19/08/2019

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

19/08/2019

as recorded in minute reference:

13/AUGUST

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

[Signature]

Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate 2018/19

In respect of

BURY PARISH COUNCIL

1. Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2019; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in the accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Controller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work **does not** constitute an audit carried out in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

2. External auditor report 2018/19

(Except for the matter reported below)* on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. In our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with the *Proper Practices* and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

(*delete as appropriate)

The Internal Auditor has raised various points of non-compliance during the year with regulations and financial controls. These points were raised in the prior year but not immediately actioned at that time.

The current Council has accepted the points raised and updated its procedures and policies during the year in order to comply with all required areas, however there remained deficiencies for at least part of the year under review.

Points raised are in relation to the following areas:

- Monitoring and maintaining a detailed budgetary process
- Internal Controls not being reviewed or followed
- Risk assessment procedures not being undertaken annually as required
- Implementing points raised in internal and external audit reports
- Maintaining a fixed asset register
- Preparing periodic bank reconciliations

Until the 2018 audit the Council answered 'Yes' to acting as 'Sole Trustee' in respect of questions on the Accounting and Governance Annual Return. This is in relation to the Squires Cottages charity in which Councillors automatically become Trustees (although the Parish Council itself is not a Trustee). We raised a qualification matter in relation for 2018 as no satisfactory explanation for the change was provided and the Charity is still being run on the same basis. The Parish Council and Internal Auditor have again answered 'No' to these questions this year but the Council has confirmed it remains a sole Trustee and the setup of the Charity remains unchanged. Councillors should take steps to understand the disclosure requirements for the Squires Cottages charity and confirm the basis on which it requires to be recorded on the Return.

The Public Rights period notified did not cover the first 10 working days of July as required by the Audit and Accounts Regulations 2015.

The Notice of Public Rights period covered only 29 working days due to a bank holiday falling within the period given. As a result, the Council has not provided the minimum period for the exercise of electors' rights for the 2019 Accounting and Governance Annual Return as required by the Audit and Accounts Regulations 2015.

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

NONE

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

3. External auditor certificate 2018/19

We certify/ ~~do not certify~~* that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2019.

*We do not certify completion because:-

External Auditor Name

MOORE

External Auditor Signature



Date 15/04/2020

*Note: the NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on limited assurance reviews for 2018/19 in Auditor Guidance Note AGN02. The AGN is available from the NAO website (www.nao.org.uk)

DRAFT ACCOUNTS BEFORE AUDIT

BURY PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

PERIOD TO 31 March 2019

Period Ended 31/03/2018 £		Period Ended 31/03/2019 £
	BPC Receipts	
25,173.00	Precept	25,173.00
0.00	Grant – CDC	1,035.00
9.17	Bank interest - PC	43.63
150.00	Licences Land	150.00
0.00	Squires Cottages Charity Loan Repayment contribution	2,074.46
4,806.58	Squires cottages Charity grants	4,163.49
6,195.60	HMRC VAT refund	
1,356.93	Miscellaneous – Fit Payment	0.00
199.40	Neighbourhood Plan	1,458.30
	Project Grants	0.00
10,725.00	Grant – CDC – Watershed	0.00
	Other	787.09
48,615.68	BPC Receipts	34,884.97
8,524.68	BVH Receipts	10,815.49
57,140.36	Total receipts for period	45,700.46
	BPC	
98.09	General Maintenance	457.27
5,514.76	Grounds Maintenance & Services	5,626.06
250.00	Section 137	550.00
2,074.46	Bury Green Loan Repayment	2,074.46
0.00	Admin Sundries	48.00
238.56	Computer and other office equipment	807.92
12,329.72	Salary Clerk	7,805.20
2,844.99	HMRC contributions	1,985.92
0.00	Insurance	4,994.29
510.00	Audit	874.80
3,215.54	Neighbourhood Plan	285.60
60.00	Training	259.50
5,104.01	VAT paid	1,036.54
0.00	Other miscellaneous	
16,245.54	Special Projects	7,810.77
219.14	Subscriptions	398.03
48,704.81	Total BPC payments	35,014.36
	BVH	
374.14	Bookers	242.52
465.94	General	1,095.67
1,771.49	Equipment	43.61
307.73	Licences	108.47
3,500.04	Cleaning	3,500.04
860.07	CDC waste	1,019.73
601.38	Repairs and Improvements	1,162.10
1,533.76	Oil Heating	748.34
1,009.74	Electricity	1,060.00
371.96	Water & Sewage	440.00
596.90	Telephone & Internet	767.42
670.94	VAT paid	44.84
325.00	Window Cleaning	450.00
12,389.09	Total BVH payments	10,682.74
61,093.90	Total Payments	45,697.10
-3,953.54	Surplus (Deficit) for the period	3.36
	Receipts and payments summary	
33,167.66	Balance b/f 1st April	29,214.12
57,140.36	Add total receipts	45,700.46
81,008.02	Less Total payments	45,697.10
29,214.12	EOY Balance	29,217.48
	These Cumulative Funds are represented by:	
0.00	Nat. West Current Account BPC	0.00
30,329.36	Nat. West Business Reserve Account BPC	30,056.46
-1,115.24	Minus Uncleared cheques	638.98
29,214.12	Closing Bank	29,217.48
	Funds Allocation	
5,000.00	Capital and General Reserve	5,000.00
5,000.00	General and grounds maintenance.	5,000.00
5,000.00	Bury Village Hall - chairs and tables replaced	
500.00	Pill Pond - (drainage of road leading to pond thru Watershed) Separate	
500.00	Wharf	500.00
5,000.00	Cricket field, Bury Green and Play Equipment	825.00
	Renovation of Bury Green.	
1,500.00	A29	
6,714.12	General Reserve	17,892.48
29,214.12	Total Reserves	29,217.48

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED WITH PART 3 AGAR

ITEM REQUIRED	INCLUDE Y/N OR RESPONSE
1. State the basis of accounts – Income and Expenditure(I&E) or Receipts and Payments (R&P)	R&P
2. Bank reconciliation	Yes
3. Explanation of significant variances	Yes - see table 1 below
4. A reconciliation between boxes 7 and 8 – this must be quantified	N/A
5. An explanation of any 'No' answers in Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement)	Yes - see table 2 below
6. An explanation of any 'No' answers in the Annual Internal Audit Report	Yes - see table 3 below
7. An explanation of the level of reserves held if more than twice the precept pf the Authority	N/A
8. Whether you use the general power of competence	No
9. The dates for the periods for the exercise of public rights	Moore Stephens aware of the delay. Posted commencing 20 th August 2019 to 30 th Sept 2019.
10. This sheet duly completed	Yes

Table 1 - Explanation of significant variances

		31/03/2018	31/03/2019	Variance	%	Explanation
Balance B/Fwd	BOX 1	£33,169	£29,214	£-3,955	-12%	
Precept	BOX 2	£25,173	£25,173	£0	0%	
Total other receipts	BOX 3	£31,967	£20,527	£-11,440	-36%	No Neighbourhood plan funding = £10,440 No District Council cleansing grant = £1,000
Staff costs	BOX 4	£15,175	£9,791	£-5,384	-35%	March 2019 wages paid in April 2019 = £700 No overtime in 2018/19 = £4,000 Reduced HMRC payments = £700
Loan interest	BOX 5	£2,074	£2,074	£0	0%	
All other payments	BOX 6	£43,847	£33,832	£-10,015	-23%	No Neighbourhood Plan spend in 2018/19 = £4,200 Reduced special projects spend in 2018/19 = £5,80
Balances c/fwd	BOX 7	£29,214	£29,217	£3	0%	
Cash & investments	BOX 8	£29,214	£29,217	£3	0%	
Fixed assets	BOX 9	£734,071	£734,071	£0	0%	
Borrowings	BOX 10	£12,126	£10,640	£-1,486	-12%	

Table 2 - An explanation of any 'No' answers in Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement)

CONTROL	RESPONSE
2 - We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	Adequate control measures were not demonstrated in 2018/19. The recommendations from the Internal Auditor will be implemented and managed via an Action Plan.
5 - 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.	No risk assessments were carried out in 2018/19. The recommendations from the Internal Auditor will be implemented and a Risk Register is now in place.
6 - We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	Internal audit arrangements were not effective in 2018/19. The recommendations from the Internal Auditor will be implemented and managed via an Action Plan.
7 - We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	Some of the matters from the previous internal audit had not been actioned. The recommendations from the Internal Auditor will be implemented and managed via an Action Plan.

Table 3 - An explanation of any 'No' answers in the Annual Internal Audit Report

OBJECTIVE	RESPONSE
C - This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	No risk assessments were carried out in 2018/19. A Risk Register is now in place.
D - The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	Progress against budget was not demonstrated in 2018/19. An effective budget control regime is now in place which is monitored regularly and identifies levels of reserves.
H - Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	Whereas an asset register was in place in 2018/19 the internal audit found that register needs further work and currently falls short of best practice. These changes will be adopted, and the asset register updated accordingly.
I - Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	The necessary reconciliations were not carried out in 2018/19. Compliance to BPC Financial Regulations will be observed with quarterly reconciliation and variance reports presented to Members for approval.

**BURY PARISH COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION
OF UNAUDITED ANNUAL GOVERNANCE &
ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

**Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 26 and 27
The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)**

NOTICE	NOTES
<p>1. Date of announcement 19th August 2019 (a)</p> <p>2. Each year the smaller authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). The AGAR has been published with this notice. It will not be reviewed by the appointed auditor, since the smaller authority has certified itself as exempt from the appointed auditor's review. Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the AGAR, the accounting records for the financial year to which it relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested. For the year ended 31 March 2019, these documents will be available on reasonable notice by application to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) Paul Richards, Clerk (acting) to Bury Parish Council, Bury Village Hall, The Street, Bury, West Sussex, RH20 1PA Email – clerkburyparishcouncil@gmail.com</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">commencing on (c) Tuesday 20th August 2019</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">and ending on (d) Monday 30th September 2019</p> <p>3. Local government electors and their representatives also have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the accounting records; and • The right to make an objection which concerns a matter in respect of which the appointed auditor could either make a public interest report or apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the smaller authority. <p>The appointed auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose between the above dates only.</p> <p>4. The smaller authority's AGAR is subject to review by the appointed auditor under the provisions of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and the NAO's Code of Audit Practice 2015. The appointed auditor is:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Moore Stephens, (Ref SW/cc) Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6PZ</p> <p>5. This announcement is made by (e) Paul Richards, Clerk (acting) to Bury Parish Council</p>	<p>(a) Insert date of placing of the notice which must be not less than 1 day before the date in (c) below</p> <p>(b) Insert name, position and address/telephone number/ email address, as appropriate, of the Clerk or other person to which any person may apply to inspect the accounts</p> <p>(c) Insert date, which must be at least 1 day after the date of announcement in (a) above and at least 30 working days before the date appointed in (d) below</p> <p>(d) The inspection period between (c) and (d) must be 30 working days inclusive and must include the first 10 working days of July.</p> <p>(e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice – this person must be the responsible financial officer for the smaller authority</p>