

Ashburton Town Council Annual Governance Statement 2025 – 2026

Clarification of 'No' responses

Assertion 10.

We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.

Analysis

The council ensured that a .gov.uk compliant website was created during 2025, with an associated email address for the Town Clerk. The website provider manages the website and can contact the council if any non-compliant content is found. However, it was realised on the day of the Internal Audit that the council should run its own compliance check prior to the year end. This was then tested, with a good response of 86% compliance.

In practice, data management has been analysed by the Clerk's Office throughout the year, however a formal data audit was not approved by the council prior to the year end.

Mitigation

Going forward, especially as a lot of changes and additions will be made to the website this year, the council agree to completing an independent website compliance check bi-annually at least; in addition to making and recommended amendments by the provider.

The data audit will be formally completed using an SLCC template (suggested and provided by the internal auditor) and approved by the council upon completion.