

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

We acknowledge as the members of

WICKHAM SKEITH PARISH COUNCIL NAME OF AUTHORITY

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 2026, that:

	Agreed		Yes means that the 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.	☒	☐	prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	☒	☐	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We have assured 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 the authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	☒	☐	has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
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.	☒	☐	during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the authority's accounts.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing the authority and took appropriate steps to manage these risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	☒	☐	considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	☒	☐	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.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	☒	☐	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, disputes or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	☒	☐	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
9. Other local councils enjoy Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the funds/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent evaluation or audit.	☐	☐	☒ Yes we are all of its responsibilities where as a body corporate it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or funds.
10. We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.	☒	☐	has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so.

*For any statement in which the response is 'No', an explanation must be provided.

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

11/05/2026

and recorded as minute reference:

110526/ 41 MINUTE REFERENCE

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

Chair

Harriet Baines

Clerk

[Signature]

Information required by the Transparency Code (not part of the Annual Governance Statement)

The authority website is up to date and the information required by the Transparency Code has been published

Yes No

WICKHAM SKEITH PC GOV.UK -LY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/ PAGE ADDRESS