



AUDITING SOLUTIONS LTD

Market Drayton Town Council
18 Frogmore Road,
Market Drayton,
Shropshire
TF9 3AX

**Finance & General Purpose
Committee
3 September 2026
Appendix FG059**

July 2026

Dear Sirs

The purpose of this letter is to set out the basis on which we (are to) act as internal auditors of the Council and the respective areas of responsibility of the Council and of ourselves.

As Councillors of the above Council, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and preparing financial statements, which give a true and fair view and comply with the Local Government Act Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996, as amended periodically. You are also responsible for making available to us, as and when required, the Council's accounting records and all other necessary records and related information for us to undertake our review in accordance with the requirements of the "Governance and Accountability Manual – The Practitioner's Guide", including minutes of all Council and Committee meetings.

As a privately owned company we conform our total independence from the Council's decision-making processes and maintenance of accounting and other records. Our annual programme of work is as set out in our standardised detailed programme of work, suitably tailored to meet the requirements of the Council and to take account of the various financial systems in operation and is based on the requirements of the detail set out in the Governance and Accountability Manual – "The Practitioner's Guide".

We have a responsibility to report to the members whether, in our view, the financial statements, as summarised at Section 2 of the statutory Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), are in accordance with the Council's accounting records, whether they are supported by appropriate systems of internal financial control in the areas specified in the Internal Audit Report embodied in the AGAR and our detailed annual report to the Council, also whether they comply with all relevant legislation. In arriving at our view, we are required to consider the requirements set out in the Governance and Accountability Manual – "The Practitioner's Guide", and to report on any in respect of which we are not satisfied.

We have a professional responsibility to report if the financial statements do not comply in any material respect with Statements of Standard Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting Standards, as applicable to local Councils, unless in our opinion the non-compliance is justified in the circumstances.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with Part 2, Regulation 5 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations as set out in the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (as amended periodically) and the Auditing Standards issued by the accountancy bodies and will have regard to relevant Auditing Guidelines. Furthermore, it will be conducted in such a manner as we consider necessary to fulfil our responsibilities and will include such tests of transactions and of ownership and valuation of assets and liabilities as we consider necessary.

We shall expect to obtain such relevant and reliable evidence as we consider sufficient to enable us to draw reasonable conclusions therefrom. The nature and extent of our tests will vary according to our assessment of the Council's accounting systems, and where we may wish to place reliance on the systems of internal control and may cover any aspect of the Council's business operations.

We shall report to you any significant weaknesses in or observations on, the Council's systems which come to our notice and which we consider should be brought to your attention. We will also examine annually the Council's approach to the assessment and formal adoption of the risks associated with the various financial and related systems in the Council.

We shall obtain an understanding of the accounting systems in order to assess their adequacy as a basis for the preparation of the financial statements and to establish whether proper accounting records have been maintained.

All evidence obtained, whether in electronic or hard copy format, will be retained in accordance with the General Data Protection Legislation, Auditing Solution's GDPR, and Document & Data retention policies, and the General Data Protection Regulation Non-Disclosure Agreement issued in concert with this Agreement.

As part of our normal audit procedures, we may request you to provide written confirmation of oral representations, which we have received from you during the audit.

In order to assist us with the examination of your financial statements, as summarised in the AGAR, we shall request sight of all relevant supporting documents, including those relating to the chairman's certification of the AGAR, which are due to be issued with the financial statements. We reserve the right to attend relevant meetings of the Council and to receive notice of all meetings.

We may ask, additionally, for confirmation in writing that all the transactions undertaken by the Council have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records, and our audit report on your Council's financial statements may refer to this confirmation.

The responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities and fraud rests with the Council. Notwithstanding this, we shall endeavour to plan our audit so that we have a reasonable expectation of detecting material misstatements in the financial statements or accounting records resulting from irregularities or fraud, but our examination should not be relied upon to disclose irregularities and frauds that may exist. We also require that, in the event of any suspected irregularity being identified by members or the Council's Clerk, we are advised immediately and, if appropriate, consulted on the appropriate courses of action that should be applied to examine the position further.

We shall not be treated as having notice, for the purposes of our audit responsibilities, of information provided to members of our firm other than those engaged on the audit (e.g. information provided in connection with accounting and other services).

Agreement of terms

Once it has been agreed, this letter and contract will remain effective for future years, until it is either cancelled by the Council or ourselves. We respectively ask that, should the Council wish to cancel the contract, due notice is given by 30th September latest in the financial year under review, as work on the year's review will have either commenced prior to or shortly after that date. We shall be grateful if you could confirm in writing your agreement of the terms of this letter or let us know if they are not in accordance with your understanding of our terms of appointment.

Please indicate your agreement by signing this letter and returning to this office.

On behalf of Auditing Solutions Ltd	Signature	Market Drayton Town Council	Signature
Stuart J Pollard Director	<i>Stuart Pollard</i>	Dated: 	