

## Certificate of Exemption

To be completed only by smaller authorities where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 in the year of account ended 31 March 2018, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015

There is no requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit an Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor, **provided** that the authority has certified itself as exempt at a meeting of the authority after 31 March 2018 and a completed Certificate of Exemption is submitted notifying the external auditor.

SMANNELL PARISH COUNCIL

certifies that during the financial year 2017/18, the higher of the authority's gross income for the year or gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed **£25,000**

Annual gross income for the authority 2017/18:

£22,777

Annual gross expenditure for the authority 2017/18:

£23,394

There are certain circumstances in which an authority will be **unable to certify itself as exempt**, so that a limited assurance review will still be required. If an authority is **unable to confirm the statements below then it cannot certify itself as exempt** and it **must** submit the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 3 to the external auditor to undertake a limited assurance review for which a fee of £200 +VAT will be payable.

By signing this **Certificate of Exemption** you are confirming that:

- The authority has been in existence since before 1st April 2014
- In relation to the preceding financial year (2016/17), the external auditor has not:
  - issued a public interest report in respect of the authority or any entity connected with it
  - made a statutory recommendation to the authority, relating to the authority or any entity connected with it
  - issued an advisory notice under paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 8 to the Audit and Accountability Act 2014 ("the Act"), and has not withdrawn the notice
  - commenced judicial review proceedings under section 31(1) of the Act
  - made an application under section 28(1) of the Act for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, and the application has not been withdrawn nor has the court refused to make the declaration
- The court has not declared an item of account unlawful after a person made an appeal under section 28(3) of the Act.

If you are able to confirm that the above statements apply and that the authority neither received gross income, nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000, then the Certificate of Exemption can be signed and submitted to the external auditor.

The Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement, Annual Accounting Statements, an analysis of variances and the bank reconciliation plus the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 including the period for the exercise of public rights still need to be fully completed and, along with a copy of this certificate, published on a public website\* before 2 July 2018. **By signing this certificate you are also confirming that this will be done.**

Signed by the Responsible Financial Officer

Kevin Blyth - Davies

Date

04/06/18

Signed by Chairman

[Signature]

Date

04/06/18

Email

smannellpc@gmail.com

Telephone number

07887520214

\*Published web address (not applicable to Parish Meetings)

www.smannellparishcouncil.org.uk

**This Certificate of Exemption should be returned as soon as possible after certification to your external auditor.**

# Annual Internal Audit Report 2017/18

## SMANNEU 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 2018.

The internal audit for 2017/18 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.                                                                                                                                                                     |                                            |     | no petty cash |
| 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. | ✓                                          |     |               |
| <b>K. (For local councils only)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                            |     |               |
| Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                            |     | ✓             |

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

31/05/18

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

JOHN C MULLAN DMF FCFED

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

*[Signature]*

Date

31/05/18

\*If the response is 'no' please 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 2017/18

We acknowledge as the members of:

SMANNELL 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 2018, 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                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |        |    | ✓                                                                                                                                                                                              |

This Annual Governance Statement is approved by this authority and recorded as minute reference:

882

dated

4/6/18

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

Chairman

Clerk

*[Signature]*  
*Kevin Flynn - David*