

## Intermediate review & 5% tests

### Assertions being tested 2025-26

This year we are testing the following areas:

Annual Governance Statement Assertion	Review Objectives	Audit Evidence
<p><b>Assertion 1</b> We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.</p>	<p>Confirm arrangements for reviewing bank reconciliation.</p>	<p>Copy of bank statements for all bank accounts held clearly showing the balance on the 31 March 2026.</p>
<p><b>Assertion 4</b> We have provided proper opportunity during the year 2025-26 for the exercise of public rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</p>	<p>Confirm that the notice of completion of the auditor's work, together with the relevant accompanying information, was published in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.</p> <p>This would usually be on the council's website. Where the smaller authority does not have a website, this can be on another free-to-access website. In respect of Parish Meetings, display in a conspicuous place for 14 days is an acceptable alternative to a website.</p>	<p>Copy of prior year notice of completion (2024-25) of the external auditor's work on the annual return, and evidence of its publication (such as a web address and dates of documents being added).</p>
<p><b>For local councils only (where applicable)</b> <b>Assertion 9</b> Trust funds (including charitable) - in our capacity as sole managing trustee, we have discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and if required, independent examination or audit.</p>	<p>Where line 11 of the accounting statements discloses a council is a <u>sole</u> trustee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm trust accounts prepared in accordance with trust deed and reported to Charity Commission requirements.</li> <li>• Confirm banking arrangements for council and trust allow adequate separation.</li> </ul>	<p>Latest annual report to Charity Commission.</p> <p>Copy of bank statement for trust fund.</p>