

Hinton Charterhouse Parish Council – AGAR2 2025-26 ‘Assertion 10’ – IT Statement

1. Internal Audit Report

Hinton Charterhouse Parish Council (HCPC) underwent an Internal Audit review on 27th April, and during May, 2026 (see website for full copy of the IA Report). HCPC was found to be complaint in all areas of Governance and Accountability, however, the Auditor reported that the Council was not fully compliant with the new control objective on digital and data compliance – although he noted the positive steps HCPC was already taking to rectify this.

2. IT Policy

HCPC will produce an overall IT Policy which may be ready for adoption by the Council at its June or July meeting. The Council will be updating and revising all documents connected to digital and data compliance during the 2026-27 year.

3. Accessibility Statement

The Council had an accessibility statement on its previous website (which inexplicably ceased operating in December 2025). HCPC is currently populating its new website – which has a generic statement in place. A revised HCPC statement will be issued shortly.

4. Freedom of Information and Transparency

The Council has always complied with the Transparency Code and any Freedom of Information requests. In addition HCPC will now also adopt the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) Model Publication Scheme. See website

5. GDPR

HCPC has had in place a GDPR policy which it reaffirms every at the full council meeting in May of each year. Copy on the website.

6. Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)

Public Sector Bodies Accessibility regulations WCAG2.2AA

The Internal Auditor commissioned a third party software checker to assess HCPC's new website to see if it fully met these guidelines. The Council has contacted HCPC's website/email provider (Parish-Online.co.uk – who are a not for profit organisation specialising in providing IT services to Local Government). Our Website provider has questioned this finding. The Internal Auditor is also reviewing the results that the website checking software has produced. This area is currently under review.

7. Contact

This statement is provided as an obligatory part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return process. If you have any questions please contact the HCPC Parish Clerk: Mr G Parkes at Clerk@hintoncharterhouse-pc.gov.uk

22nd May 2026