

**WHIMPLE PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The purpose of this report is to provide details as to an explanation as to why a statement on the Annual Governance Statement has been answered as 'no'.

This report will also give details as to how the Council's governance arrangements will be improved in 2025/26.

Statement answered as 'no'

*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.*

Whimple Parish Council has a Risk Management Strategy, which was last approved by the Parish Council on 16 October 2023.

In 2024/2025 Whimple Parish Council did not have a completed risk assessment.

As a result of this there is no evidence to confirm that the Council considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.

Improvement actions for 2025/26

The Risk Management Strategy This Strategy will now be reviewed and approved by the Council at the Annual Meeting in May.

A risk assessment has been drafted and will be considered and approved by the Council at the Annual Meeting on 19 May 2025.

The Council now has a forward plan and reviewing the risk assessment has been scheduled to be on the Council agenda on a quarterly basis. This will include adding any new or emerging risks. Evidence of considering the risks and actions taken to mitigate them will be formally recorded in the minutes.