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Explanation of a 'No' response on the AGAR for 2024-25

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.

The financial risk management scheme was last reviewed in February 2024, so not in the current financial year and it is not on the website.

The budget process is well documented and the progress against budget is regularly monitored with the depletion of reserves highlighted. However, little action appears to have been taken over several years and the current general reserve has slipped into a deficit of £7,189. The precept for 2025/26 has been raised by 10.55% and a sum of £5,000 has been allocated to reserves, however this still does not bring the level to the required amount for a council of this size. It is acknowledged that this will take a number of years to bring the reserve to an acceptable level.

Maxine Warr
Internal Auditor