

Hibbins Cottage, The Green, Ketton, Stamford, PE9 3RA Tel 07889 669550

Email: clerk@eastononthehill-pc.gov.uk

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2025/26 FORM 3

SECTION 1 - ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025/2026

ASSERTION 10 asks whether the Parish Council has put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.

The Council has answered NO due to some elements that are not fully effective yet, as below.

1. “The council ensures its website complies with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines WCAG 2.2 AA and ensures the website complies with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 where applicable.”
The council has instructed its website provider VisionICT to perform an “MOT” and provide a report on areas that may not be compliant, and they have not done this yet as they are behind with their work. Once received, the council will bring the website up to required standards. In the interim, there is a statement on the website to advise viewers.
2. “The council has implemented an IT policy that directs how the authority conducts business in a secure and legal way. This policy must cover data when it is processed on both authority equipment and software and personal equipment and software”. “The council has implemented an IT policy covering use of council and personal devices for official business, emails, document handling, data storage and security protocols and responsibilities of councillors, staff and contractors.”
The council has voted to agree its IT policy within the next 4 months and by September. It has been discussed at a previous council meeting, and some changes are to be made before final agreement and adoption, including a data audit.

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

26/5/26