

## **Proposal to implement .gov emails for all Councillors**

Within the Internal Audit report for 2022-2023 it mentioned that

“The members of the Council are still using personal email addresses for council business. This leaves them open to FOI and SAR intrusion into their personal emails. PG2023 states that all members should be using designated council email addresses for Parish Business. Please enact this without delay.”

Within the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners Guide March 2023 under Compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices it states on page 12, item 1.26 Email management – every authority should have an email account that belongs to the council and to which the council has access – this ideally would be a gov.uk or org.uk address or could be an address linked to the Council website.

Question 3 on the Annual Governance Statement asks the following question

“We took all reasonable steps to ensure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this smaller authority to conduct its business or on its finances”.

If Council emails are not implemented the answer to this question next year would be No.

A separate briefing note from NALC has been separately on why it is advisable for Councillors to have Council email addresses.