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The following issues have been raised as we have detected issues with the governance arrangements of the smaller authority. It is recommended that the smaller authority consider these matters and decide what action to take to improve the governance arrangements as soon as possible.

### **Risk Assessment**

#### *What is the issue?*

The smaller authority has not carried out a risk assessment as part of its review of the effectiveness of internal control during the year but has stated this in its annual governance statement.

#### *Why has this issue been raised?*

This is a breach of regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 which requires smaller authorities to review the effectiveness of internal control which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

#### *What do we recommend you do?*

The smaller authority must ensure that a risk assessment is carried out as part of its review of the effectiveness of internal control before the end of the financial year. This review of effectiveness of internal control and risk assessment must be reviewed and minuted as evidence of the review being undertaken annually before the end of the financial year. The review should be noted in the minutes and any adoption should be resolved by the smaller authority.

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England - A Practitioners Guide, NALC/SLCC

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