

## Letter of Engagement between

Do the Numbers Limited and East Tistead Parish Council (hereafter "the Council")

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Members and Officers,

The purpose of this letter is to set out the basis on which the Do the Numbers is engaged as internal audit provider to the Council.

We undertake to provide the council with a suitably qualified Internal Auditor whose competences and qualifications comply with the requirements of the <u>Audit and Accounts</u> <u>Regulations 2015</u>.

All work will be carried out in accordance with the guidance and instruction in the <u>Practitioners</u> Guide 2024 .

This letter sets out terms on which Do the Numbers Ltd will act for the Council in relation to the internal audit.

#### Period of engagement

This agreement will start with the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### Responsibilities of the Council and the internal auditor

- (i) As councillors, you are responsible for approval of the annual governance statement and the preparation of the annual return, including, inter alia, the maintenance of proper accounting records and an appropriate system of internal control.
- (ii) Do the Numbers Ltd will work in accordance with the generally accepted professional standards for such engagements. It will consist of internal audit checks following the guidelines in the current edition of "Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England". In particular, the internal audit will be carried out using the best practice approach contained therein.
- (iii) The list of information to be made available to the auditor will be sent to the council annually.

### Regulatory requirements

We reserve the right to disclose their files to regulatory and law enforcement bodies in the exercise of their powers.

#### Quality of service

- (i) We aim to provide the best possible service to clients. If you would like to discuss how the service could be improved, please contact the director of the company by email.
- (ii) We undertake to investigate any complaint carefully and promptly and do all we can to explain the position to you. We will do everything reasonable to put matters right. Prompt communication enables us to take prompt action on your behalf.
- (iii) Should you at any stage feel that you have not received an adequate response to a complaint the circumstances should be brought to the attention of the Director.
- (iv) If we do not answer your complaint to your satisfaction you may take up the matter with the External Audit Provider for your county.

Do the Numbers Ltd, 37 Upper Brownhill Road, Southampton SO16 5NG Company No. 7871759

# Do the Numbers

#### Fees

These are as per the company scale of charges, confirmed annually, and are based on the total income or expenditure of the council for the year under review.

Fees will be billed annually and will be due upon presentation.

#### Applicable law

This engagement letter shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, English law. The Courts of England shall have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to any claim, dispute or difference concerning the engagement letter and any matter arising from it. Each party irrevocably waives any right it may have to object to an action being brought in those Courts, to claim that the action has been brought in an inconvenient forum, or to claim that those Courts do not have jurisdiction.

#### Agreement of terms

- (i) Once it has been agreed, this letter will remain effective from the date of signature until it is replaced. Either party may vary or terminate our authority to act on your behalf without penalty. Reasonable notice of termination must be given in writing.
- (ii) Please could the council confirm its agreement to the terms set out by this letter by the Chairman signing and returning the enclosed copy. Please contact the Director if they are not in accordance with your understanding of our terms of engagement.

Yours faithfully

Eleanor Greene ICPA for Do the Numbers Limited

For and on behalf of East Tistead Parish Council

This letter of engagement confirms and is the entire contract between the parties. The letter of engagement was considered by the council in accordance with Financial Regulations relating to contracts and approved in accordance with Standing Orders as witnessed below