SHEFFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Please find below reasons for selecting NO for any of the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) assertions

The Council has ticked NO for: **4. We provided proper opportunity during the year forthe exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.**
The Council did not advertise a 30 day period, including the first 10 days of July, for the exercise of public rights to inspect accounts.

The Council has ticked NO for: **5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.**
The Council did not carry out a formal risk assessment and document this in meeting minutes during the year.

The Council has ticked NO for: **7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.**
The Council did not formally review the 2024/25 external auditor's report nor create an formal action plan. All issuses raised by the external auditor were not addressed as we did not carry out a risk assessment during 2025/26.

The Council has ticked NO for: **10. We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under**
The Council ticked NO for this assertion as we did not during the financial year in question: 1. Complete a data audit 2. Review our IT policy However the Council: 1. Does have a generic email account hosted on an authority owned domain (clerk:sheffordtowncouncil.gov.uk) together with specific gov.uk email addresses for all councillors and staff. 2. Does have a compliant website. 3. Has published documentation as required for Transparency. 4. Does have a Data Protection Policy and is ICO compliant.