

Meeting Type: Full Council	Agenda Item: 22
Date of Meeting: 12 th August 2026	
OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL	
Report Author: Samantha Haywood, Locum Clerk/RFO	Purpose: Decision
Title: Forensic Audit	
Some councillors and staff have expressed concerns regarding financial matters and have stated that they believe there may have been fraudulent activity. As a result, they have suggested a forensic audit to independently examine the relevant records and establish the facts. These statements reflect the views of those councillors and staff, and any findings would be a matter for an independent investigation. The Acting Deputy Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for a full forensic audit going back both 3 years and 5 years. Quotes received for Council consideration: 1) Company 1 - £950 - £1,050 per day. Total £6,650-£7,350 for 7 days. 2) Company 2 – From £13,580. 3) Company 3 – declined to quote. 4) Company 4 - £550 per day. Total £3,850 for 7 days. 5) Company 5 – awaiting quote. All plus VAT. Companies were asked to quote for auditing the past 3 years' accounts and the past 5 years' accounts but they have chosen to give a day rate, except for Company 2. Company 4 proposed approx. 7 days for a 3-year audit and approx. 10 days for a 5-year audit so the total figures above are based on a 3-year audit at 7 days' work. Please note that the Locum Clerk suggested LGRC were approached for a quote as they have specialists in forensic audits. As the Locum Clerk works for LGRC and there is a conflict of interest, the Acting Deputy Clerk was asked to obtain quotes and then provide details for this agenda to the Locum Clerk once all quotes had been received to ensure independence. I therefore categorically confirm that I, as Locum Clerk, had no sight of quotes before they were presented for this agenda and had no involvement in obtaining the 3 quotes. It should be noted that Council have not budgeted for this work so any costs would need to be taken from general reserves.	
Motion:	
MOTION: That Council consider and decide upon quotes received for a forensic audit.	

For completion by the office

<i>In Budget</i> ☐	<i>Spend Authorised</i> ☐	<i>Budget Header:</i>	<i>Amount:</i>
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Version 1.3 3rd January 2025

<i>Estimates</i> ☐	<i>Quotes</i> ☐	<i>Emergency Spend</i> ☐	<i>Sole supplier</i> ☐	<i>Specialist</i> ☐	
<i>P.O</i> ☐	<i>Invoice Checked</i> ☐	<i>Reason for spend:</i>			
<i>Legal Power: Local Government Act 1972</i> <i>amend as necessary</i>		<i>Contract Finders</i> ☐	Supplier:		