

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: 15 November 2023
My Ref:
Your Ref:

**Committee:
Audit Committee**

Date: Thursday, 23 November 2023
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Wilfred Owen Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting. The Agenda is attached

There will be some access to the meeting room for members of the press and public, but this will be limited. If you wish to attend the meeting please email democracy@shropshire.gov.uk to check that a seat will be available for you.

Please click [here](#) to view the livestream of the meeting on the date and time stated on the agenda

The recording of the event will also be made available shortly after the meeting on the Shropshire Council Youtube Channel [Here](#)

Tim Collard
Assistant Director – Legal and Governance

Members of Audit Committee

Simon Harris (Vice Chairman)
Nigel Lumby
Brian Williams (Chairman)

Roger Evans
Rosemary Dartnall

Independent Member: Jim Arnold

Your Committee Officer is:

Michelle Dulson Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257719

Email: michelle.dulson@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 **Apologies for Absence / Notification of Substitutes**

2 **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Members are reminded that they must declare their disclosable pecuniary interests and other registrable or non-registrable interests in any matter being considered at the meeting as set out in Appendix B of the Members' Code of Conduct and consider if they should leave the room prior to the item being considered. Further advice can be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

3 **Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 28 September 2023 (Pages 1 - 12)**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 28 September 2023 are attached for confirmation.

Contact Michelle Dulson (01743) 257719

4 **Public Questions**

To receive any questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. The deadline for this meeting is 5pm on Friday 17 November 2023.

5 **Member Questions**

To receive any questions of which Members of the Council have given notice. The deadline for this meeting is 5pm on Friday 17 November 2023.

6 **Second line assurance: Risk Annual Report 2022/23 incorporating Strategic Risks Update (Pages 13 - 18)**

The report of the Risk and Business Continuity Manager is attached.

Contact: Jane Cooper (01743) 252851

7 **First line assurance: Blue Badge Management Update (Pages 19 - 32)**

The report of the Head of Business and Consumer Protection is attached.

Contact: Frances Darling (01743) 251715

8 **First line assurance: Freedom of Information (FOI) Management Update (Pages 33 - 46)**

The report of the Assistant Director – Legal and Governance is attached.

Contact: Tim Collard (01743) 252756

9 Second line assurance: Treasury Strategy Mid-Year Report 2022/23 (Pages 47 - 70)

The report of the Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is attached.

Contact: James Walton (01743) 258915

10 Governance Assurance: Annual Audit Committee Self-Assessment (Pages 71 - 92)

The report of the Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is attached.

Contact: James Walton (01743) 258915

11 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Charter (Pages 93 - 110)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

12 Second line assurance: Annual review of Counter Fraud, Bribery and Anti-Corruption Strategy and activities, including an update on the National Fraud Initiative (Pages 111 - 142)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

13 Governance Assurance: Annual review of Audit Committee Terms of Reference (Pages 143 - 152)

The report of the Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is attached.

Contact: James Walton (01743) 258915

14 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Performance Report and revised Annual Audit Plan 2023/24 (Pages 153 - 172)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

15 Second Line Assurance: Statement of Accounts 2021/22 (Pages 173 - 388)

The report of the Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is attached.

Contact: James Walton (01743) 258915

16 Second Line Assurance: Statement of Accounts 2022/23

The report of the Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is to

follow.

Contact: James Walton (01743) 258915

17 Third line of assurance: External Audit: Shropshire Council Audit Findings (Information) 2021/22

The report of the Engagement Lead is to follow.

Contact: Grant Patterson (0121) 232 5296

18 Third line of assurance: External Audit: Shropshire Council Audit Findings (Information) 2022/23

The report of the Engagement Lead is to follow.

Contact: Grant Patterson (0121) 232 5296

19 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held on the 22nd February 2024 at 10:00am.

20 Exclusion of Press and Public

To RESOLVE that in accordance with the provision of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations and Paragraphs 2, 3 and 7 of the Council's Access to Information Rules, the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following items.

21 Exempt minutes of the previous meeting held on the 28 September 2023 (Pages 389 - 390)

The exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 28 September 2023 are attached for confirmation.

Contact: Michelle Dulson 01743 257719

22 Internal Audit: Fraud, Special Investigation and RIPA Update (Exempted by Categories 1, 2, 3 and 7) (Pages 391 - 394)

The exempt report of the Internal Audit Manager is attached.

Contact: Katie Williams 07584 217067

23 Third line assurance: Montagu Evans Contract Management Audit (Exempted by Categories 3 and 5) (Pages 395 - 398)

The exempt report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

24 First line assurance: Montagu Evans Contract Management

Update(Exempted by Category 3) (Pages 399 - 404)

The exempt report of the Head Property and Development is attached.

Contact: Steve Law (01743) 281017

25 Third line assurance: Highways Other Major Contracts Audit (Exempted by Categories 3 and 5) (Pages 405 - 408)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409