

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Guildhall
Frankwell Quay
Shrewsbury
SY3 8HQ

Date: 18 September 2025

Committee:
Audit & Governance Committee

Date: Friday, 26 September 2025
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: The Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ

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 & Governance Committee

Duncan Kerr	Carl Rowley
Malcolm Myles-Hook	Sharon Ritchie-Simmons
Rhys Gratton	Kate Halliday
Mark Owen	Nigel Lumby
Duncan Borrowman	Jim Arnold (Independent Member)

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 16 July 2025 (Pages 1 - 8)

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 16 July 2025 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 12noon on Monday 22 September 2025.

5 Member 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 12noon on Monday 22 September 2025.

6 First line assurance: The Lantern Management Update (Pages 9 - 16)

The report of the Property Services Group (PSG) Facilities and Maintenance Manager is attached.

Contact: Matt Jordan (01743) 252668

7 First line assurance: Agency and Consultancy Staff Management Update (Pages 17 - 26)

The report of the Service Director for Enabling is attached.

Contact: Sam Williams (01743) 252817

8 First line assurance: Children's Social Care Budget Management Update

The report of the Director of Children's Services is to follow.

Contact: David Shaw (01743) 252459

9 Second line assurance: Strategic Risk Update (Pages 27 - 32)

The report of the Service Director for Strategy is attached.

Contact: Billy Webster (billy.webster@shropshire.gov.uk)

10 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Recruitment Update (Pages 33 - 36)

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

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

11 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Performance Report and revised Annual Audit Plan 2025/26 (Pages 37 - 58)

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

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

12 Governance Assurance: Annual review of Audit Committee Terms of Reference (Pages 59 - 70)

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

Contact: James Walton (01743) 258915

13 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Charter and Mandate (Pages 71 - 90)

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

Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

14 Third Line Assurance: External Audit Letter on Financial Position Based on Period 4

The report of the Engagement Lead is to follow.

Contact: Avtar S Sohal (0121) 232 6420

15 Third line of assurance: External Audit: Shropshire County Pension Fund Interim Audit Findings Report (Information) 2024/25 (Pages 91 - 140)

The report of the Engagement Lead is attached.
Contact: Avtar S Sohal (0121) 232 6420

16 Audit & Governance Committee Decision log 2025/2026 (Pages 141 - 142)

To consider the Audit & Governance Committee Decision log for 2025/2026.
Contact: Michelle Dulson (01743 257719)

17 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held on the 27 November 2025 at 10.00 am.

18 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.

19 Exempt Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 16 July 2025 (Pages 143 - 144)

The Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on the 16 July 2025 are attached for confirmation.
Contact Michelle Dulson (01743) 257719

20 Second line assurance: Contract Rules Exemptions Update (Exempted by Category 3) (Pages 145 - 156)

The report of the Monitoring Officer is attached.
Contact: Tim Collard (01743) 252756

21 Third Line Assurance: Fraud, Special Investigation, RIPA and Exemptions Update (Exempted by Categories 1, 2, 3 and 7) (Pages 157 - 162)

The report of the Internal Audit Manager is attached.
Contact: Katie Williams 07584 217067

