



Audit and Governance Committee

Date: Monday, 12 January 2026
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum: 3)

Gary Suttle (Chair), Spencer Flower (Vice-Chair), Belinda Bawden, Neil Eysenck, Jill Haynes, Andrew Parry, Andy Todd, Beryl Ezzard, Ryan Holloway and Chris Kippax

Co-opted Members: S Roach and R Ong.

Chief Executive: Catherine Howe, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic & Governance Services Meeting Contact john.miles@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

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Agenda

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**Audit and Governance
Action Tracker.**

Number	Action	Officers/Cllrs asked to complete action.	Date action issued	Date Due	Latest Status	Date of Completion
1	Review the thresholds and look at an off-system approval process and how it was being dealt with. To bring to the next meeting.	Sean Cremer (Corporate Director Finance and Commercial).	24 th November 2025	12 th January 2026.	In-progress	
2	Our Future Council Update – for future reports, it was asked for more focus around IT risks and around risks.	Lisa Cotton (Corporate Director Transformation, Customer and Culture).	24 th November	23 rd February 2026	In-progress	
3	Simon Roach requested that officers issue a short summary response to the questions on Grant Thornton Audit Progress Report - pg 154 – suggested questions that the Committee might ask.	Sean Cremer (Corporate Director Finance and Commercial).	13th October 2025	23 rd February 2026	In- progress	
4	Take away responses from 4th August meeting and update the Committee around payroll access to sensitive IT Capabilities - The Committee members highlighted that in their view the management responses to the action plan did not fully address the findings raised by the external auditor and officers agreed to take these away to revisit and update.	Christopher Matthews (Head of People and Work Force)	4 th August 2025		Completed – updated Committee.	24 th November 2025.
5	Cllr Steve Murcer asked - To provide greater analysis of reserves - what the reserves looked like, what the committed reserves are and what the free reserves are. So that the Council knows what level of reserves that could be used to balance the	Sean Cremer (Corporate Director Finance and Commercial).	13 th October 2025		Completed	2 nd January 2026.

**Audit and Governance
Action Tracker.**

	books at the end of the year. Looking to see if the Council has headroom in reserves. Cllr Clifford-said that he would get accurate figures of the reserves sent around to the Committee.					
6	Expand in key areas of the report – more detail - such as, Cllr Jill Haynes referenced pg 72 and 73 of the P4 report - £28 Million social care debt but only £17 Million collectable. Pg 75 12 that was going to be written off – no story behind that.	Sean Cremer (Corporate Director Finance and Commercial).	13 th October 2025		Completed	2nd January 2026.
7 Page 4	Organise Risk Briefing and Demonstration of Risk Dashboard.	Chris Swain (Risk Reporting Officer) and Liz Crocker (Head of Service Strategy).	13 th October 2025		Complete – Briefing held on 20 th November 2025.	20 th November 2025.