Audit and Governance Committee

Date: Monday, 27 April 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

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

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services
Meeting Contact louis.wicks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda. If you would like to attend this meeting and have any specific requirements please contact the Democratic Services Officer named above.

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Agenda

Item		Pages
1.	**APOLOGIES**	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	**MINUTES**	5 - 10
	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2026.	
3.	**AUDIT & GOVERNANCE ACTION TRACKER**	11 - 16
	To consider the Audit & Governance Action Tracker.	
4.	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**	
	To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interest as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their decision	

councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration.

If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives of town or parish councils and members of the public who live, work, or represent an organisation within the Dorset Council area are welcome to submit either 1 question or 1 statement for each meeting. You are welcome to attend the meeting in person or via MS Teams to read out your question and to receive the response. If you submit a statement for the committee this will be circulated to all members of the committee in advance of the meeting as a supplement to the agenda and appended to the minutes for the formal record but will not be read out at the meeting. The first 8 questions and the first 8 statements received from members of the public or organisations for each meeting will be accepted on a first come first served basis in accordance with the deadline set out below.

All submissions must be emailed in full to
louis.wicks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
by 8.30 am on Wednesday 22 April 2025.

When submitting your question or statement please note that:
• You can submit 1 question or 1 statement.
• A question may include a short pre-amble to set the context.
• It must be a single question and any sub-divided questions will not be permitted.
• Each question will consist of no more than 450 words, and you will be given up to 3 minutes to present your question.
• When submitting a question please indicate who the question is for (e.g., the name of the committee or Portfolio Holder)
• Include your name, address, and contact details. Only your name will be published but we may need your other details to contact you about your question or statement in advance of the meeting.
• Questions and statements received in line with the council's rules for public participation will be published as a supplement to the agenda.
• All questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

6. MINUTES OF THE AUDIT & GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE 17 - 22

To note the minutes of the Audit & Governance Hearing Sub-committee held on 25th February 2026.

7. THE AUDIT PLAN FOR DORSET COUNCIL & DORSET COUNCIL PENSION FUND - GRANT THORNTON 23 - 84

To receive a report from Julie Masci, Head of Engagement Grant Thornton.

8.	**RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE** To receive a report from Chris Swain, Risk Management and Reporting Officer.		85 - 102
9.	**AUDIT ACTIONS UPDATE REPORT** To receive a report from Chris Heighway, Strategic Performance & Risk Lead.		103 - 124
10.	**ANNUAL INFORMATION GOVERNANCE REPORT** To receive a report from Marc Eyre, Service Manager for Assurance.		125 - 164
11.	**CORPORATE COMPLAINTS POLICY** To receive a report from Marc Eyre, Service Manager for Assurance.		165 - 172
12.	**REPORT OF INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY - SWAP PROGRESS REPORT** To receive a report from Sally White, Assistant Director SWAP.		173 - 184
13.	**APPROACH TO INTERNAL AUDIT PLANNING 2026-27 - SWAP** To receive a report from Sally White, Assistant Director SWAP.		185 - 198
14.	**WORK PROGRAMME** To consider the work programme for the Committee.		199 - 200
15.	**URGENT ITEMS** To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.		
16.	**EXEMPT BUSINESS** To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 7 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.		
	a)	Protecting our Council - Cyber Security Risk Management and Future Improvement Plans	201 - 236

To consider a report from James Ailward, Head of ICT Operations.