

Audit and Governance Committee

Date: Monday, 3 August 2026
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum: 3)

Spencer Flower (Chair), Steve Murcer (Vice-Chair), Belinda Bawden, Neil Eysenck, Jill Haynes, Andy Todd, Beryl Ezzard, Ryan Holloway, Ryan Hope and Ray Bryan

Co-opted Members: Roger Ong, Simon Roach

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

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic & Governance 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 the 29 th June 2026.	
3. ACTION TRACKER	11 - 14
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 8.30am on Wednesday the 29th of July 2026.

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. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

To receive questions submitted by councillors.

Councillors can submit up to two valid questions at each meeting and sub divided questions count towards this total. Questions and statements received will be published as a supplement to the agenda and all questions, statements and responses will be published in full

within the minutes of the meeting.

The submissions must be emailed in full to louis.wicks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on Wednesday the 29th of July 2026.

[Dorset Council Constitution](#) – Procedure Rule 13

7. MINUTES OF THE AUDIT & GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

To note the minutes of the Audit & Governance Hearing Sub-committee (if any meetings have been held)

8. EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE - 2025-26 15 - 64

To receive a report from Julie Masci, Grant Thornton - Director of Public Sector Audit

9. RECRUITMENT TO THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT 65 - 68

To receive a report from Jonathan Mair, Director of Assurance and Governance

10. DORSET COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 69 - 76

To receive a report from Adam Williams, Assistant Director – SWAP

11. ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT OPINION 2025-26 77 - 98

To receive a report from Adam Williams, Assistant Director – SWAP

12. ANNUAL FRAUD AND PROTECTED DISCLOSURE REPORT 99 - 110

To receive a report from Marc Eyre, Service Manager for Assurance

13. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AND LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 111 - 176

To receive a report from Marc Eyre, Service Manager for Assurance

14. WORK PROGRAMME 177 - 178

To consider the work programme for the Committee

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 3 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.

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| a) | Cyber Security Risk Action Plan Update and Responsible AI Framework Update | 179 -
192 |
| | To receive a report from Lisa Cotton, Interim Executive Director of Modernisation and Customer Delivery | |