

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

Date: Thursday, 17 September 2026

Committee:
Audit & Governance Committee

Date: Friday, 25 September 2026
Time: 1.30 pm
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](#)

Richard Phillips
Service Director- Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer).

Members of Audit & Governance Committee

Sharon Ritchie-Simmons (Chair)
Kate Halliday (Vice Chairman)
Duncan Kerr
Malcolm Myles-Hook
Mark Owen

Duncan Borrowman
Nigel Lumby
Greg Ebbs
Brendan Mallon

Your Committee Officer is:

Michelle Dulson Committee Officer
Tel: 01743 257719
Email: michelle.dulson@shropshire.gov.uk

When attending this meeting, Members are reminded of the three principles of the Jo Cox Foundation and Compassion in Politics Civility Pledge:

1. *Use a civil and constructive tone in debate*
2. *Act with integrity, honesty and compassion*
3. *Behave respectfully towards others, including those I disagree with*

*(Please note that while we strive to live stream meetings, technical issues may occasionally occur. In the event of a technical disruption, the meeting will be paused to try to resolve the issue. Should it not be possible to resume the live stream, the meeting will proceed as scheduled, and a backup recording will be made available after the meeting. Any disruption to the live stream does not affect the legality of the meeting).

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 15 July 2026 (Pages 1 - 6)

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 15 July 2026 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 21 September.

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 21 September.

6 First line assurance: Chief Executive Update (Pages 7 - 22)

The report of the Chief Executive is attached.

Contact: Tanya Miles (01743) 255811

7 First line assurance: Exceptional Financial Support: External Assurance Review (Pages 23 - 48)

The report of the Interim S151 Officer is attached.

Contact: Duncan Whitfield (01743) 254928

8 Second line assurance: Annual Risk Management Update and Strategic Risks (Pages 49 - 102)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.
Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

9 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Performance Report and revised Annual Audit Plan 2026/27 (Pages 103 - 128)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.
Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

10 Governance Assurance: Annual review of Audit and Governance Committee Terms of Reference (Pages 129 - 142)

The report of the Interim Section 151 Officer is attached.
Contact: Duncan Whitfield (01743) 254928

11 Third line assurance: Internal Audit Charter and Mandate (Pages 143 - 190)

The report of the Head of Policy and Governance is attached.
Contact: Barry Hanson 07990 086409

12 Third line of assurance: External Audit: Shropshire County Pension Fund Annual Audit Findings (Information) 2025/26 (Pages 191 - 226)

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

13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held on the 26 November 2026 at 10.00 am.

14 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.

15 Third line assurance: Contract Rules Exemptions Update (Exempted by Category 3) (Pages 227 - 240)

The exempt report of the Monitoring Officer is attached.
Contact: Richard Phillips (01743) 256603

16 Third Line Assurance: Fraud, Special Investigation, RIPA and Exemptions Update (Exempted by Categories 1, 3 and 7) (Pages 241 - 248)

The exempt report of the Internal Audit Manager is attached.
Contact: Katie Williams 01743 255637