

## **AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

**MONDAY, 27 JULY 2026**

### **Present:-**

Cllr. Mark Jackson (Chairperson)  
Cllr. Les Phillimore (Vice-Chair)

Cllr. Alex DeWinter

Cllr. Richard Holdridge

Cllr. Roger Stead

### **Officers present: -**

|                   |                                          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sarah Pennelli    | - Executive Director - S.151 Officer     |
| Joanne Davis      | - Accountancy Services Manager           |
| Sarabjit Khangura | - Council Tax Income and Debt Manager    |
| Kerry Beavis      | - Shared Service Audit Manager           |
| Avisa Birchenough | - Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer |

### **Also in attendance as observers: -**

Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore - Finance, People and Transformation Portfolio Holder and Deputy Leader

### **Apologies: -**

Cllr. Adrian Clifford  
Cllr. Stuart Coar  
Helen King (Independent Member)

**1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

No disclosures were received.

**2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 April, as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

**3. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2026/27 Q1**

Considered – Report of the Shared Service Audit Manager.

The Vice-Chair, Cllr. Les Phillimore requested that the comments of the Shared Services Manager be noted, where it was highlighted that an I.T Audit had not previously been achieved under the previous partnership model and welcomed the findings of the first audit, which proved reasonable assurance and reflected positively on the service and Officers.

**DECISION**

That the Internal Audit progress report be noted.

Reason:

To inform the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee of progress against the Internal Audit plan for 2026/27 and to highlight any incidences of significant control failings or weaknesses that have been identified.

**4. INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT**

Considered – Report of the Shared Service Audit Manager.

**DECISION**

That the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee report be noted.

Reason:

To enable the Audit Committee to consider the report prior to receiving the Annual Governance Statement for consideration.

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2026 - 2029**

Considered – Report of the Council Tax Income & Debt Manager.

**DECISIONS**

1. That comments on the Risk Management Strategy be accepted.
2. That the Risk Management Strategy be recommended to Cabinet Executive for adoption.

Reasons:

1. The existing Risk Management Strategy expired on 31st March 2026, and it is appropriate to review the Council's risk appetite and procedures.
2. Audit and Corporate Governance Committee are responsible for ensuring that risk management arrangements are effective and for advising Cabinet Executive on risk.

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT QUARTER 1 2026/27**

Considered – Report of the Council Tax Income & Debt Manager.

**DECISION**

That the latest information in respect of the Council's major corporate risks be accepted.

Reason:

The overview of the Council's risk management processes is a key responsibility of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee. It is important that members are aware of the corporate risks and their potential impact on Council business, and that they review the control measures in place to mitigate risks.

**7. UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2026/26**

Considered – Report of the Accountancy Services Manager.

**DECISION**

That the financial performance for 2025/26 be accepted.

Reason:

To give Members the opportunity to comment and ask questions in respect of the Council's financial performance, and unaudited accounts for 2025/26.

**8. AUDIT & CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

Members accepted the items on the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee Work Programme.

**DECISION**

That the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee Work Programme be noted.

Reason:

It is appropriate that the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee set the Work Programme for the year.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.47 P.M.**