

GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Hybrid meeting, 15th December, 2025

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: G. Chapman (Chair and Lay Member); N. Ireland (Vice-Chair and Lay Member); Councillors B. Dodd, E. Goodjohn, M.J. Hooper, J. Protheroe and N.J. Wood; and M. Evans (Lay Member).

Also present: Councillors L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for performance and Resources), C.P. Franks, G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing), E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health) and R. Hendicott (Observer – Standards Committee).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from Councillor G. Ball.

AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 20th November, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

AGENDA ITEM 4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2025/26 (REF) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2025/26 be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION: LONG TERM CRISIS?
(DCR) –

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the findings from Audit Wales' review of the Temporary Accommodation (Appendix A to the report), supporting local information detailed in (Appendix B to the report) and the response to the review findings and Audit Wales' recommendations (Appendix C to the report), be noted.

(2) T H A T the recommendations from the Audit Wales review be added to the Regulatory Tracking report.

(3) T H A T the report be referred to Cabinet for its oversight and endorsement, with Cabinet also be advised of the view of the Governance and Audit Committee in relation to the following:

- For Cabinet to write to Welsh government to express concern that no additional funding has been provided to Local Authorities in relation to the new piece of legislation.

(4) T H A T the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee also write to Welsh Government to express concern that no additional funding has been provided to Local Authorities in relation to the new piece of legislation.

Reason for decisions

(1-4) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 6. CORPORATE RISK: QUARTER 2 UPDATE (DCR) –

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the responses following consideration of the referred comments from the Governance and Audit Committee (Annex A to the report), be noted.

(2) T H A T the Quarter 2 position of corporate risks (1st July to 30th September 2025) as outlined in the Risk Summary report (Annex B to the report), be noted.

(3) T H A T the comments of the Governance and Audit Committee be referred to Cabinet for its consideration. The comments relating to the following:

- To highlight the increased risks associated with major projects, cyber security and climate change / nature emergency.

Reason for decisions

(1-3) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 7. Q2 2025/26 PROGRESS AGAINST EXTERNAL REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS (DCR) –

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Council's progress to date in addressing existing recommendations made by its external regulators as outlined in the appended Strategic Insight Board Insight Trackers for the period Q2 2025/26, be noted.
- (2) T H AT the views and recommendations of the Governance and Audit Committee be referred to Cabinet (including endorsing the removal of completed actions from the Strategic Insight Board Insight Tracker).

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8. FINALISATION OF THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE – RESPONSES FROM AUDIT WALES AND THE SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE (DCR) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 9. GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE DECISION AND ACTION TRACKING (DCR) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the Decision Tracking record appended to the report be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 10. AUDIT WALES – NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE BRIEFING NOTE (HRIAS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the Audit Wales Governance and Audit Committee Briefing Note at Appendix A to the report be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 11. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT (HRIAS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report and the progress made against the Internal Audit Risk Based Plan 2025-26 be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 12. RECOMMENDATION MONITORING REPORT (HRIAS) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report and the information provided in respect of the status of the high and medium priority recommendations made by the Regional Internal Audit Service, be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 13. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (HRIAS) –

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T Forward Work Programme be noted.
- (2) T H A T the schedule of items for the next meeting on 23rd February, 2026 be endorsed.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.