

Agenda

Audit and Governance Committee

Date: **Tuesday 9 June 2026**

Time: **2.00 pm**

Place: **Conference Room 2, Herefordshire Council Offices,
Plough Lane, Hereford, HR4 0LE**

Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format, please call Jen Preece, Democratic Services Officer on 01432 261699 or e-mail jennypreece@herefordshire.gov.uk in advance of the meeting.

Agenda for the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee

Membership

Chairperson **Councillor David Hitchiner**

Vice-chairperson **Councillor Mark Woodall**

Councillor Chris Bartrum

Councillor Frank Cornthwaite

Councillor Peter Hamblin

Councillor Robert Highfield

Councillor Aubrey Oliver

Kerry Diamond

Independent Expert

Agenda

		Pages
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive apologies for absence.</p>	
2.	<p>NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY)</p> <p>To receive details of any councillor nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the committee.</p>	
3.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>To receive declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.</p>	
4.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2026.</p>	11 - 16
<p>HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS</p> <p>Deadline for receipt of questions is 5pm on Wednesday 3 June 2026.</p> <p>Questions must be submitted to councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk.</p> <p>Questions sent to any other address may not be accepted.</p> <p>Accepted questions and the response to them will be published as a supplement to the agenda papers prior to the meeting. Further information and guidance is available at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/getinvolved</p>		
5.	<p>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</p> <p>To receive any questions from members of the public.</p>	
6.	<p>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</p> <p>To receive any questions from councillors.</p>	
7.	<p>DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>To provide the committee with the draft annual report covering the work undertaken by the Committee, during the 2025/26 municipal year.</p>	17 - 24
8.	<p>APPOINTMENT TO STANDARDS PANEL</p> <p>To appoint to the membership of the Standards Panel.</p>	25 - 28
9.	<p>UPDATE ON RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY</p> <p>To provide assurance of the adequacy of the council's risk management framework and internal controls in 2025/26.</p>	29 - 42
10.	<p>DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025/26</p> <p>To seek the view of the committee as to whether the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2025/26 properly reflects the internal control environment the council is operating in and the appropriateness of actions identified to improve governance arrangements.</p>	43 - 64

11. 2025/26 DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS	65 - 200
To note the draft, unaudited Statement of Accounts for 2025/26.	
12. INTERNAL AUDIT OPINION 2025/26	201 - 230
To present a summary of the work undertaken by Internal Audit during 2025/26 and to give an overall opinion on levels of assurance resulting from this work.	
Due to the information contained in The Internal Audit Annual Opinion (Appendix A), it is deemed unnecessary to submit a separate quarterly monitoring report. Instead, we have produced a condensed version of the usual report which contains a summary of the work concluded since the last meeting of this Committee.	
13. INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER AND MANDATE 2026/27	231 - 242
To present to the Audit and Governance Committee the Internal Audit Charter and Mandate 2026/27 for consideration and approval.	
14. WORK PROGRAMME	243 - 246
To consider the committee's work programme (Appendix A).	
15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS	
To agree the dates of future meetings. The following dates are suggested:	
Tuesday 21 July 2026 2pm	
Tuesday 29 September 2026 2pm	
Tuesday 3 November 2026 2pm	
Tuesday 26 January 2027 2pm	
Tuesday 23 March 2027 2pm	
Tuesday 8 June 2027 2pm	