

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**Date and Time:-** Thursday 25 September 2025 at 2.00 p.m.

**Venue:-** Rotherham Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH

**Membership:-** Councillors Baggaley (Chair), Allen (Vice-Chair), Blackham, Elliott and McKiernan.

**Ms. A. Hutchinson and Mr. M. Olugbenga-Babalola, Independent Members**

The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes.

Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend the meeting.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of items listed on the agenda.

### **3. Questions from Members of the Public or the Press**

To receive questions relating to items of business on the agenda from members of the public or press who are present at the meeting.

### **4. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To determine whether the following item should be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended 2006) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for:-

Agenda Item 13 (Assistant Chief Executive – Risk Management) on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

**5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th July, 2025 (Pages 5 - 15)**

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2025, as a true and correct record of the proceedings and to be signed by the Chair.

**6. External Audit Progress Report**

Grant Thornton, External Auditors, to give a verbal progress update

**7. Information Governance Annual Report 2024/25 (Pages 17 - 26)**

Paul Vessey, Head of Information Management, to present the Information Governance 2024-25 Annual Report

**8. Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy, Strategy and Self-assessment against Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally Checklist (Pages 27 - 74)**

Louise Ivens, Head of Internal Audit, to present the report

**9. Internal Audit Progress Report for the period 1st May to 31st July 2025 and Draft Audit Strategy 2025-28 (Pages 75 - 119)**

Louise Ivens, Head of Internal Audit, to present the report

**10. Code of Corporate Governance (Pages 121 - 153)**

Simon Dennis, Corporate Improvement and Risk Manager, to present the revised Code of Corporate Governance

**11. Audit Committee Forward Work Plan (Pages 155 - 161)**

Louise Ivens, Head of Internal Audit, to present the Audit Committee forward work plan for November, 2025 to September, 2026

**12. Partial Opinion Audits Progress Report (Pages 163 - 173)**

Louise Ivens, Head of Internal Audit, to present the partial opinion audits progress report

**13. Risk Management Presentation - Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 175 - 201)**

Phil Horsfield, Assistant Director, Legal Services, to present

**14. Items for Referral for Scrutiny**

To consider the referral of matters for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

## **15. Urgent Business**

To consider any item which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

**The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held on:-  
Tuesday 25 November 2025  
commencing at 2.00 p.m.  
in Rotherham Town Hall.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Edwards', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Edwards,  
**Chief Executive.**