



James Ellis
Director for Legal, Policy and
Governance

MEETING : AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
VENUE : COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD
DATE : TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2026
TIME : 7.00 PM

PLEASE NOTE TIME AND VENUE

This meeting will be live streamed on the Council's Youtube page:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/EastHertsDistrict>

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Councillor Martin Adams (Chair)
Councillors B Deering, J Dunlop, C Hart, S Nicholls (Vice-Chair),
G Williamson, D Willcocks, Mr M Poppy and Mr N Sharman

Substitutes

Conservative Group: Councillor J Wyllie
Green Group: Councillors M Connolly and N Cox
Labour Group: Councillor D Jacobs
Liberal Democrat Group: Councillors S Marlow and M Swainston

(Note: Substitution arrangements must be notified by the absent Member to Democratic Services 7 hours before the meeting, i.e. by midday on the day of the meeting)

CONTACT OFFICER:
MICHELE AVES
COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER
01279 502177
michele.aves@eastherts.gov.uk

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Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

A Member, present at a meeting of the Authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Authority, with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in any matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting:

- must not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
- must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting;
- must disclose the interest to the meeting, whether registered or not, subject to the provisions of section 32 of the Localism Act 2011;
- if the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days;
- must leave the room while any discussion or voting takes place.

Public Attendance

East Herts Council welcomes public attendance at its meetings and meetings will continue to be live streamed and webcasted. For further information, please email democraticservices@eastherts.gov.uk or call the Council on 01279 655261 and ask to speak to Democratic Services.

The Council operates a paperless policy in respect of agendas at committee meetings and the Council will no longer be providing spare copies of Agendas for the Public at Committee Meetings. The mod.gov app is available to download for free from app stores for electronic devices. You can use the mod.gov app to access, annotate and keep all committee paperwork on your mobile device.

Visit <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/article/35542/Political-Structure> for details.

Audio/Visual Recording of meetings

Everyone is welcome to record meetings of the Council and its Committees using whatever, non-disruptive, methods you think are suitable, which may include social media of any kind, such as tweeting, blogging or Facebook. However, oral reporting or commentary is prohibited. If you have any questions about this please contact Democratic Services (members of the press should contact the Press Office). Please note that the Chairman of the meeting has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons, including disruption caused by the filming or the nature of the business being conducted. Anyone filming a meeting should focus only on those actively participating and be sensitive to the rights of minors, vulnerable adults and those members of the public who have not consented to being filmed.

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence

2. Minutes - 26 November 2025 (Pages 6 - 20)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2025.

3. Chair's Announcements

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest.

5. External auditors completion report - 2024/25 (Pages 21 - 200)

6. Shared Anti Fraud Service - Anti-Fraud Progress Report 2025/26 (Pages 201 - 205)

7. Shared Anti Fraud Service - Anti-Fraud Plan 2026/27 (Pages 206 - 218)

8. Shared Internal Audit Service - Internal Audit Plan Report 2026/27 (Pages 219 - 252)

9. Strategic Risk register Quarter 3 Monitoring (Pages 253 - 260)

10. Financial Management 2025/26 - Quarter 3 Forecast to year end (Pages 261 - 273)

11. 2025/26 Accounting Policies (Pages 274 - 283)

12. Audit and Governance Committee Work Programme (Pages 284 - 293)

13. Urgent Items

To consider such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the

meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration and is not likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information.

Exclusion of Press and Public

No Part II business has been notified for this meeting. If Part II business is notified and the procedures set out in the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 have been complied with, the Chairman will move: -

“That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of item XX on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph XX of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”