

East Herts Council Report

Council

Date of meeting: Wednesday 13 May 2026

Report by: Cllr Martin Adams, Chair of Audit and Governance Committee

Report title: Annual Audit & Governance Committee Report 2025/26

Ward(s) affected: All Wards

Summary – This report introduces the Annual Audit and Governance Committee report for 2025/26 on behalf of the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee. It provides an overview of the topics scrutinised by the Committee during the 2025/26 civic year.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL:

- a) That the Annual Audit and Governance Committee Report covering the 2025/26 Civic Year be noted.

1. Proposal

- 1.1. The Annual Report for 2025/26 is attached at Appendix A and summarises the work of the Audit and Governance Committee during the respective period.

2. Background

- 2.1. Under good practice, an Annual Audit and Governance Committee report is prepared to set out the Committee's work and effectiveness in overseeing the Council's governance, risk management and internal control arrangements.

3. Reason

3.1. The production of an annual report is a requirement of the Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS) for the UK public sector.

4. Options

4.1. No alternatives have been considered.

5. Risks

5.1. Publication of an Annual Audit and Governance Report provides a summary of what issues have been reviewed in the preceding year.

6. Implications / Consultations

Community Safety

None arising from the report.

Data Protection

Yes – providing Council with assurance over data protection.

Equalities

None arising from the report.

Environmental Sustainability

None arising from the report.

Financial

Yes – providing Council with assurance over effectiveness of the Finance, Audit and Risk Management function.

Health and Safety

None arising from the report.

Human Resources

None arising from the report.

Human Rights

None arising from the report.

Legal

None arising from the report.

Specific Wards

None arising from the report.

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 Appendix 1 – Annual Audit and Governance Committee Report 2025/26

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