



AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday, 16 September 2026

Time: 6.00pm,

Location: Council Chamber

Contact: Gemma O'Donnell

committees@stevenage.gov.uk

Members: Councillors: Forhad Chowdhury (Chair), Dermot Kehoe (Vice-Chair),
Jim Brown, Jeff Bullock, Leanne Brady, Coleen DeFreitas,
Sarah Mead, Liam Morrell Phillips, Graham Spencer and
Peter Wilkins

AGENDA

PART 1

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2026
3 - 6
- 3. SHARED INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE - PROGRESS REPORT**
To provide Members with the progress made by the Shared Internal Audit Service (SIAS) in delivering the Council's 2026/27 Internal Audit Plan to 28 August 2026.
7 - 42
- 4. ADOPTION OF ANTI-FRAUD & CORRUPTION POLICY STATEMENT & STRATEGY / ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY / FRAUD SANCTIONS POLICY**
To provide the Committee with the Council's revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy, Anti-Money Laundering Policy and Fraud Sanctions Policy for review, comments, and formal adoption.
43 - 122
- 5. EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN - AZERTS**
To consider the Azets External Audit plan.
123 - 186
- 6. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF 2025/26 INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS**
To note the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2025/26 and to approve the actual 2025/26 prudential and treasury indicators in this report.
187 - 206

- 7. SHARED ANTI-FRAUD SERVICE (SAFS) YEAR END REPORT AND PROGRESS UPDATE**
To consider the work undertaken by the Council and the Shared Anti-Fraud Service to protect the Council against the threat of fraud and the delivery of the Council's Anti-Fraud Action Plan for 2026/2027.
207 - 238
- 8. RIPA POLICY AND REPORT**
To consider the Council's revised RIPA Policy for review by the Committee and adoption by the Council, to ensure the Council as a public authority meets its obligations under The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).
239 - 274
- 9. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**
To consider any Part 1 business accepted by the Chair as urgent.
- 10. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**
To consider the following motions –
1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 – 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.
 2. That Members consider the reasons for the following reports being in Part II and determine whether or not maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.
- 11. PART II MINUTES - AUDIT MARCH & JUNE 2026**
To approve as a correct record the Part II Minutes of the meetings held on 24 March & 2 June 2026
275 - 278
- 12. Q1 CORPORATE RISK REPORT**
To note the latest Strategic Risk Register update for Stevenage Borough Council.
279 – 322
- 13. URGENT PART II BUSINESS**
To consider any Part II business accepted by the Chair as urgent.