



# STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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11 July 2022

## AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee will be held on **TUESDAY, 19 JULY 2022** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud at **7.00 pm**

Kathy O'Leary  
Chief Executive

**Please Note:** The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Stroud District Council and will be streamed live on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#). A recording of the meeting will be published onto the [Council's website](#). The whole of the meeting will be recorded except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of press and public.

If you wish to attend this meeting, please contact [democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk). This is to ensure adequate seating is available in the Council Chamber.

### AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**  
To receive apologies of absence.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**  
To receive declarations of interest.
3. **MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)**  
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2022.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**  
The Chair of the Committee will answer questions from members of the public submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures.

#### **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS Noon on Wednesday, 13 July 2022**

Questions must be submitted to the Chief Executive, Democratic Services, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud and can be sent by email to [Democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk)

5. **CORPORATE RISK REGISTER UPDATE (Pages 13 - 24)**  
To consider the Corporate Risk Register, including recent updates.

6. **COUNTER FRAUD AND ENFORCEMENT UNIT REPORT AND REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT (RIPA) 2000 / INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT (IPA) 2016 UPDATE (Pages 25 - 30)**

To provide the Audit and Standards Committee with assurance over the counter fraud activities of the Council in relation to the work undertaken by the Counter Fraud and Enforcement Unit.

The report also provides the Audit and Standards Committee with the annual update in relation to the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA), the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 (IPA) and the Council's existing authorisation arrangements.

7. **USE OF THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA IN INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY (Pages 31 - 40)**

To present the Audit and Standards Committee with a new Use of the Internet and Social Media in Investigations and Enforcement Policy, for approval and adoption, to reflect the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office guidance and recommendations that Councils should implement policies and procedures in this area.

8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN 2021/2022 (Pages 41 - 68)**

To advise on the treasury management activities in 2021/2022, in accordance with the Council's Treasury Policy Statement. To report on actual 2021/2022 Prudential Indicators in accordance with the requirements of the Prudential Code.

9. **INFORMATION SHEET - PLANNING ENFORCEMENT (Pages 69 - 70)**

Supplementary information requested, to the report presented on 30th November 2021

10. **INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22 (Pages 71 - 84)**

To provide the Committee with an annual report on Internal Audit Activity which fully meets the Head of Audit Risk Assurance's (ARA) annual reporting requirements, as set out in the Public Sector Internal Auditing Standards (PSIAS) 2017.

11. **AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22 (Pages 85 - 98)**

The Annual Report of the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee (the Committee) summarises the Committee's activities during 2021-22 and sets out its plans for the next twelve months.

This report provides independent assurance that the Council has in place:

- I. Adequate and effective governance, risk management and internal control frameworks;
- II. Internal and External Audit services; and
- III. Financial reporting arrangements that can be relied upon and which contribute to the high corporate governance standards that this Council expects and maintains.

12. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021/22 (Pages 99 - 118)**

To summarise Stroud District Council's corporate governance arrangements in place during 2021/22, via the publication of an Annual Governance Statement.

13. **INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2021/22 (Pages 119 - 148)**  
To inform Members of the Internal Audit activity progress against and final position on the approved Internal Audit Plan 2021/22.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 – EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Appendix B for this item contains exempt information by virtue of Paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 and a resolution may be passed to exclude the public during consideration of this item.

14. **STANDING ITEMS**  
(a) To consider the Work Programme for 22 / 23 (Pages 149 - 150)

15. **MEMBER QUESTIONS**  
See Agenda Item 4 for deadlines for submission.

**Members of Audit and Standards Committee**

**Councillor Nigel Studdert-Kennedy (Chair)**

Councillor Paula Baker  
Councillor Stephen Davies  
Councillor Nick Hurst  
Councillor Norman Kay

**Councillor Martin Percy (Vice-Chair)**

Councillor Keith Pearson  
Councillor Steve Robinson  
Councillor Rich Wilsher