



**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee held on 28 May 2025**

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Head of Internal Audit Annual Report 2024/25</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee resolves to:</p> <p>1.1 Note the results of internal audit work undertaken, and the opinion of the Head of Internal Audit that Reasonable Assurance can be provided on the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and internal control.</p> <p>1.2 Note the outcome of Veritau's quality assurance and development arrangements, including the confirmation that the internal audit service conforms to public sector internal auditing standards.</p> <p>1.3 Note that two significant control weaknesses have been identified by internal audit during the year which are considered relevant to the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement, these being: the council's health and safety management system and its handling of strategic site applications (pages 5-6,</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the results of internal audit work undertaken, and the opinion of the Head of Internal Audit that Reasonable Assurance can be provided on the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and internal control be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the outcome of Veritau's quality assurance and development arrangements, including the confirmation that the internal audit service conforms to public sector internal auditing standards be noted.</p> <p>(3) That the two significant control weaknesses that had been identified by internal audit during the year which were considered relevant to the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement: the council's health and safety management system and its handling of strategic site applications, be noted.</p> <p>(4) That the draft internal audit charter be approved.</p>

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	<p>appendix 1).</p> <p>1.4 Approve the draft internal audit charter.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Counter Fraud Annual Report</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p><b>Purpose of report</b></p> <p>This report presents the counter fraud annual report for 2025/26.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee resolves to:</p> <p>1.1 Note the annual report.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the Counter Fraud Annual Report 2024/2025 be noted.</p>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Annual Health and Safety Report 2024-25</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director of Human Resources</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To review the content of the report.</p> <p>1.2 To provide feedback if any further detail or additional information is required in future reports which will be submitted quarterly.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the Annual Health and Safety Report 2024/2025 be noted.</p> <p>(2) That it be noted that Health and Safety performance reports would be submitted quarterly to the Committee and officers be requested to incorporate the following in future reports as far as practicable: update on vehicle accident rates and impact of the action plan; update on near misses and systems in place to address these; and, days lost for incidents that were non-RIDDOR accidents.</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Treasury Management Report - Annual Performance Report 2024/25</b></p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the Treasury Management</p>

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	<p>Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee resolves:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of this Treasury Management Annual Performance Report.</p> <p>1.2 To recommend the report to Council</p>	<p>Annual Performance Report 2024/2025 be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the Treasury Management Annual Performance Report 2024/2025 be recommended to Council.</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Review of Committee Work Programme</b></p> <p>To consider and review the Work Programme.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the work programme update be noted.</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Rutten Lane planning application: fact finding review outcomes and action plan</b></p> <p>Report of Assistant Director – Planning and Development</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee resolves to:</p> <p>1.1 Note the findings and conclusions from Veritau’s fact-finding review, which have been summarised in this report and included in full in exempt appendix 1.</p> <p>1.2 Note that a strategic planning applications action plan (exempt appendix 2) has been drafted by the council’s Development Management service to help manage delivery of the identified improvements, and that this will</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the findings and conclusions from Veritau’s fact-finding review (summarised in the public report and included in full in exempt appendix 1) be noted.</p> <p>(2) That it be noted that a strategic planning applications action plan (exempt appendix 2) had been drafted by the council’s Development Management service to help manage delivery of the identified improvements and that this would be finalised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management.</p>

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	be finalised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management.	
14	<b>Rutten Lane planning application: fact-finding review outcomes and action plan - Exempt Appendices</b>	As set out under item 11