

SCHEDULE OF ITEMS RECOMMENDED FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES

Committee: Annual Council

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1.0 AUDIT COMMITTEE – 15 MARCH 2025

Audit Committee Annual Report 2024/25

The Committee considered the Audit Committee's Annual Report for recommendation to full Council, (Z166, previously circulated), presented by the Director Finance.

The Chair proposed, and the Vice Chair seconded the recommendations in the report.

In response to questioning, Rachel Ashley-Caunt – Head of Internal Audit, stated that:

- The ARP recommendations and action plans for improvements are taken from audit reports, which can be requested if needed.
- In the Internal Audit's Annual Report, it was noted that 17% of agreed management actions were not implemented as of March 2024. When presenting the report at Full Council, it's recommended to acknowledge this 17%, while also highlighting that efforts in 2024/25 have reduced outstanding audit recommendations to zero.

Stephen Joyce, an Independent Lay Person, noted that while the summary was clear, it did not fully capture the depth of the Committee's discussions and endorsements. It also missed insights from the external audit regarding the disclaimed opinion and gave only a brief mention of the importance of the Risk Register. It was agreed that these points would be included in Cllr Brown's introductory remarks when presenting the report at the Full Council meeting.

It was unanimously resolved to RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL:

- **That the Audit Committee Annual Report be approved.**

