

Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Audit Committee on Thursday, 29 August 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
Part A – Items considered in public		
A5	External Audit Report and Sector Update Covering Somerset Council 2023-24 and South Somerset DC 2022-23	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the position of each of the three accounts and audit progress. 2. Understood the impact of the backstop dates, presenting a risk towards completing audited accounts.
A6	Strategic Risk Report	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the current strategic risks for Somerset Council set out in Appendix One 2. Requested an update on the risks regarding delivery of the Commercial Investment Disposal and Asset Management Strategy and Programme to be provided at the next Audit meeting.
A7	Progress Report on the Recommendations of the Interim Auditor's Annual Report 2022-23	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the progress made against the actions in relation to the Key Recommendations.
A8	Improvement and Transformation Programme Risk Management Update	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the risks associated with the Improvement and Transformation Programme set out in Appendix A 2. Considered whether the proposed mitigating actions are adequate and appropriate

Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Audit Committee on Thursday, 29 August 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>to address concerns.</p> <p>3. Requested that all elected Members are further informed on the progress and milestones of the Programme.</p>
A9	Internal Audit Annual Opinion Report 2023-24	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the Internal Audit Annual Audit Opinion for 2023-24 for Somerset Council. 2. Requested an update on the completion of actions for the Health and Safety Governance internal audit report recommendations be provided at the next Audit meeting
A10	Internal Audit Plan Progress Report 2024-25	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the position of the 2024-25 Internal Audit Plan and considered any significant governance, risk and control weaknesses identified.
A11	Somerset Council Going Concern Assessment	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the Section 151 Officers assessment that the Council is a “going concern” and agreed that the 2023/24 statement of accounts should be prepared on that basis.
A12	Annual Governance Statement 2023-24	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed and commented on the draft Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 (Appendix A), the Action Plan for 2024/25 and 2025/26 (Annex 1), the supporting evidence (Annexes 2, 3 and 5) and the Local Code of Corporate Governance (Annex 4).

Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Audit Committee on Thursday, 29 August 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p align="center">2. Noted that the final version of the AGS will be presented to the Audit Committee on 30 September 2024 as part of the annual Statement of Accounts 2023/24</p>
A13	Exclusion of the Press and Public	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <p align="center">1. Passed a resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting on the basis that if they were present there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information.</p> <p>Votes: Unanimous</p>
A14	Somerset Council 2023-24 IT Audit Report	Report received.
A15	Audit Committee Workplan	<p>The Audit Committee:</p> <p align="center">1. Considered whether the content of the proposed workplan and was adequate and appropriate.</p>