



Essex County Council

# **Audit, Governance and Standards Committee Informal Meeting**

<b>10:00</b>	<b>Monday, 18 December 2023</b>	<b>Informal Meeting (open to public) Committee Room 1 and online</b>
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**For information about the meeting please ask for:**

Sophie Crane, Senior Democratic Services Officer

**Telephone:** 03330 134555

**Email:** democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

## **Essex County Council and Committees Information**

All Council and Committee Meetings are held in public unless the business is exempt in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972.

Members of the public will be able to view and listen to any items on the agenda unless the Committee has resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting as a result of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

### **ECC Guest Wifi**

For members of the public, you can now access free wifi in County Hall.

- Please log in to 'ECC Guest'
- Follow the instructions on your web browser

### **Attendance at meetings**

Most meetings are held at County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. [A map and directions to County Hall can be found on our website](#)

### **Access to the meeting and reasonable adjustments**

County Hall is accessible via ramped access to the building for people with physical disabilities. The Council Chamber is accessible by lift located on the first and second floors of County Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in most Meeting Rooms. If the meeting is taking place in Committee Room you will need to download the **Sennheiser MobileConnect App** from your mobile phone's app store in order to access a sound enhancement service for the hard of hearing. You will need to bring headphones or earbuds to the meeting with you. Please speak with a member of the Democratic Services Team before the start of the meeting for assistance in using this service.

### **Accessing Documents**

If you have a need for documents in, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Democratic Services Officer before the meeting takes place. For further information about how you can access this meeting, contact the Senior Democratic Services Officer.

The agenda is also available on the Essex County Council website, [www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk). From the Home Page, click on 'Running the council', then on 'How decisions are made', then 'council meetings calendar'. Finally, select the relevant committee from the calendar of meetings.

### **Livestreaming of meetings**

In the interests of improving access to the Council's meetings, most meetings will be livestreamed on the [ECC Democracy - YouTube Channel](#). Recordings of the meetings once they have finished are also available on the Channel.

Should you wish to record the meeting, please contact the officer shown on the agenda front page.

		<b>Pages</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Membership, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest</b>	<b>4 - 4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Absence Management Audit Progress Update (AGS/33/23)</b>	<b>5 - 15</b>
	To receive a report from Alison Woods, Director, People Business Partnering and Employment Practice	
<b>3</b>	<b>Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Progress Report (AGS/34/23)</b>	<b>16 - 47</b>
	To receive a report from Paula Clowes, Head of Assurance	

4	<b>2020-21 Statement of Accounts and Audit (AGS/35/23)</b>	48 - 55
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To receive a report to be presented by Christine Golding,  
Chief Accountant

5	<b>Work Programme 2023-24 (AGS/36/23)</b>	56 - 59
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To receive a report from Paul Turner, Director, Legal and  
Assurance

6	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
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To note that the next meeting of the Committee will take  
place at 10am, Monday 25 January 2024, in Committee  
Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH.

### **Exempt Items**

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press  
and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

**That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.**