

# NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee held in the Council Chamber, District Council  
Offices, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF  
on Wednesday, 12th November, 2025 at 7.30 pm

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ruth Brown, Stewart Willoughby, Steven Patmore and Sarah Lucas.

Having given due notice Councillor Matt Barnes substituted for Councillor Brown.

### 2 MINUTES - 10 SEPTEMBER 2025

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10 September 2025 be approved, as amended, as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

### 3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

### 4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be recorded.
- (2) The Chair drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.
- (3) The Chair advised that section 4.8.23(a) of the Constitution did not apply to this meeting.

### 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at this meeting.

### 6 EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN AND STRATEGY 2024-25

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted the External Audit Plan & Strategy 24/25.

### 7 EXTERNAL AUDIT - AUDITORS ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted the External Audit Auditors Annual Report 24/25.

### 8 SAFS PROGRESS REPORT 2025/26

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted the progress by officers and the Shared Anti-Fraud Service to deliver the Anti-Fraud Plan for the Council.

### 9 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2025-28

**RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET:** That Finance, Audit and Risk Committee provide comments to Cabinet on the proposed Procurement Strategy (as attached at Appendix A) with a focus on any risk and governance issues.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Having a Procurement Strategy provides a focus for procurement activity and guidance, so that it can support the delivery of Council priorities.

**10 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2026-30**

**REFERAL TO CABINET:** That Finance, Audit and Risk Committee note and comment to Cabinet on the Medium Term Financial Strategy, as attached at Appendix A.

**REASON FOR REFERAL:** Adoption of a Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and communication of its contents will assist in the process of forward planning the use of Council resources and in budget setting for 2026/2027 onwards, culminating in the setting of the Council Tax precept for 2026/27 in February 2026. Alongside the Council Plan, this will support the Council in setting a budget that is affordable and aligned to Council priorities.

**11 POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Chair led a discussion regarding possible agenda items for future meetings.