



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

DATE: TUESDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2026

TIME: 5:30 pm

PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ

Members of the Committee

Councillor Kaur Saini (Chair)

Councillor Russell (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Bajaj, Joel, Moore, Rae Bhatia, Singh Patel and Kitterick

Independent members: Seema Jaffer and Mohammed Chunara

Members of the Committee are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

For Monitoring Officer

Officer contacts:

Officer contact: Sharif Chowdhury Senior Governance Officer Governance Services, Leicester City Council, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ Tel. 01164540538 Email. governance@leicester.gov.uk

Information for members of the public

Attending meetings and access to information

You have the right to attend formal meetings such as full Council, committee meetings, City Mayor & Executive Public Briefing and Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. On occasion however, meetings may, for reasons set out in law, need to consider some items in private.

Dates of meetings and copies of public agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website at www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk, from the Council's Customer Service Centre or by contacting us using the details below.

Making meetings accessible to all

Wheelchair access – Public meeting rooms at the City Hall are accessible to wheelchair users. Wheelchair access to City Hall is from the middle entrance door on Charles Street - press the plate on the right hand side of the door to open the door automatically.

Braille/audio tape/translation - If you require this please contact the Governance Services Officer (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

Induction loops - There are induction loop facilities in City Hall meeting rooms. Please speak to the Governance Services Officer using the details below.

Filming and Recording the Meeting - The Council is committed to transparency and supports efforts to record and share reports of proceedings of public meetings through a variety of means, including social media. In accordance with government regulations and the Council's policy, persons and press attending any meeting of the Council open to the public (except Licensing Sub Committees and where the public have been formally excluded) are allowed to record and/or report all or part of that meeting. Details of the Council's policy are available at www.leicester.gov.uk or from Governance Services.

If you intend to film or make an audio recording of a meeting you are asked to notify the relevant Governance Services Officer in advance of the meeting to ensure that participants can be notified in advance and consideration given to practicalities such as allocating appropriate space in the public gallery etc..

The aim of the Regulations and of the Council's policy is to encourage public interest and engagement so in recording or reporting on proceedings members of the public are asked:

- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted and intrusive lighting avoided;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact: Sharif Chowdhury, Senior Governance Officer. Alternatively, email governance@leicester.gov.uk, or call in at City Hall.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the **Communications Unit on 0116 454 4151**.

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION

If the emergency alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit and proceed to the area outside the Ramada Encore Hotel on Charles Street as directed by Governance Services staff. Further instructions will then be given.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

(Pages 1 - 6)

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2026 are attached and Members will be asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. STATUTORY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2024/25

Appendix B

(Pages 7 - 258)

The Director of Finance submits a report to the Governance and Audit Committee which presents the Statutory Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2024/25, along with an update from the External Auditor, which details their audit work and any recommendations.

5. EXTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

Appendix C

(Pages 259 - 312)

The External Auditors, Grant Thornton, and Head of Finance submits a report to the Governance and Audit Committee which presents the External Audit Annual Report 2023-24.

The Committee is recommended to note the report.

6. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

