

Friday, 21 August 2026

AUDIT COMMITTEE

A meeting of **Audit Committee** will be held on

Tuesday, 1 September 2026

commencing at **2.00 pm**

The meeting will be held in the Banking Hall, Castle Circus entrance on the left corner of the Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Members of the Committee

Councillor Penny (Chair)

Councillor Brook (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Fellows

Councillor Long

Councillor Maddison

Vacancy - Conservative Group

Independent Person Mr Kristian Hawkes

A Healthy, Happy and Prosperous Torbay

Download this agenda via the free modern.gov app on your [iPad](#) or [Android Device](#). For information relating to this meeting or to request a copy in another format or language please contact:

Governance Support, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk - www.torbay.gov.uk

AUDIT COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. **Apologies**
To receive any apologies for absence, including notifications of any changes to the membership of the Committee.
2. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 27 May 2026.
3. **Declarations of interests**
 - (a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda
For reference: Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.
 - (b) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda
For reference: Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

(**Please Note:** If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)
4. **Urgent Items**
To consider any other items that the Chairman decides are urgent.
5. **2025/26 Draft Statement of Accounts - Update** (Verbal Report)
To receive a verbal update from the Head of Corporate Finance on the 2025/26 Draft Statement of Accounts.
6. **Torbay Council Audit Progress Report, Regaining Assurance Progress Report and Sector Update** (Pages 11 - 34)
To consider a report that set out the progress made by Grant Thornton on delivering their responsibilities as the Council's external auditors.
7. **Regaining Assurance Strategy for Torbay Council** (Pages 35 - 46)
To consider a report that sets out the plan to rebuild audit assurance at Torbay Council following the disclaimer of opinion

issued under the statutory backstop for the years ended 31 March 2025, 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2023.

- | | | |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| 8. | Progress against the Recommendations of the Auditor's Annual Report 2024/25
To note an update on the progress made on the recommendations set out in the Auditor's Annual Report 2024/25. | (Pages 47 - 50) |
| 9. | Risk Management Update
To note the report on the above. | (To Follow) |
| 10. | Risk Assurance Report for Our Integrated Adult Social Care Services
To note a report on the above. | (Pages 51 - 58) |
| 11. | HR Investigations and Whistleblowing
To note a report that provides a high-level summary of the number of HR investigations and Whistleblowing investigations in the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. | (Pages 59 - 76) |
| 12. | Audit Committee Work Plan 2026/2027
To note the report. | (Pages 77 - 78) |