

Audit and Standards Advisory Committee

Wednesday 23 July 2025 at 6.00 pm

Conference Hall - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way,
Wembley, HA9 0FJ

Please note this will be held as a physical meeting which all Committee members will be required to attend in person.

The meeting will be open for the press and public to attend or alternatively can be followed via the live webcast. The link to follow proceedings via the live webcast is available [HERE](#)

Membership:

Members

David Ewart (Independent Chair)

Substitute Members

Councillors:

Chan (Vice-Chair)
Choudry
Kabir
Long
Molloy
J.Patel
L.Smith

Councillors:

Agha, S Butt, Chohan, Conneely, Ketan Sheth and T. Smith

Councillors:

Kansagra and Maurice

Independent Co-opted Members

Sebastian Evans, Rhys Jarvis and Stephen Ross

For further information contact: Harry Ellis, Governance Officer
Tel: 020 8937 3287; Email: harry.ellis@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes and agendas please visit:
[Council meetings and decision making | Brent Council](#)

Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

***Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

- (a) **Employment, etc.** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences** - Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

****Personal Interests:**

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council;
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party or trade union).
- (b) The interests of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Item	Page
1 Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members	
2 Declarations of Interest	
Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, the nature and existence of any relevant disclosable pecuniary or personal interests in the items on this agenda and to specify the item(s) to which they relate.	
3 Deputations (if any)	
To hear any deputations received from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 67.	
4 Minutes of the previous meeting and Action Log	
4.1 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 16 June 2025 as a correct record.	1 - 20
(Agenda pack republished to include this item on the 22 July 2025)	
4.2 To note the updated Action Log from previous meetings of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee.	21 - 26
(Agenda republished to include an updated version of the Action Log on 23 July 25)	
5 Matters arising (if any)	
To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.	
Governance Items	
6 Procurement Review Update	27 - 38
To receive a report from the Director Strategic Commissioning, Capacity Building and Engagement providing an update on progress with the Procurement Review.	

Finance Items

7 Treasury Management Outturn Report 39 - 72

This report sets out the outturn for the Council's Treasury Management Activities for 2024-25 updating members on both borrowing and investment decisions in the context of prevailing economic conditions and the Council's Treasury Management performance.

8 FM Code Update 73 - 86

To receive a report providing an update on implementation of the FM Code.

Audit & Risk Items

9 Emergency Preparedness Report 87 - 94

This report continues the cycle of regular updates that the Emergency Planning team provide for the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee. The report provides the Committee with an update on the work and priorities of the team since the last update in September 2024.

10 Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee 95 - 100

This report summarises the outcomes of the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee for the municipal year 2024-25.

11 External Audit Progress Report and Sector Update 101 - 132

The paper provides the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee with a report on progress in delivering Grant Thornton's responsibilities as the Council's external auditors. It also includes a summary of emerging national issues and developments that may be relevant to Brent as a local authority.

12 Audit & Standards Advisory Committee Forward Plan & Work Programme for 2025-26 133 - 134

To consider and note the Committee's Work Programme for the 2025-26 Municipal Year.

13 Any other urgent business

Notice of items to be raised under this heading must be given in writing to

the Deputy Director Democratic & Corporate Governance or their representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 60.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 25 September 2025



- Please remember to ***SWITCH OFF*** your mobile phone during the meeting.
- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public. Alternatively, it will be possible to follow proceedings via the live webcast [HERE](#)