



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in Council
Chambers, Kilncraigs, Alloa on THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2025 at 9.30 AM.**

PRESENT

Councillor Janine Rennie (Chair)
Councillor Denis Coyne (Vice Chair)
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor William Keogh (Via Teams)
Councillor Fiona Law (S)
Councillor Bryan Quinn

IN ATTENDANCE

Chris Alliston, Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance)
Helena Arthur, Solicitor, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance) (Depute Clerk to the Committee)
Kevin Wells, Strategic Director (Place)
Lorraine Sanda, Strategic Director (People)
Cherie Jarvie, Senior Manager, Partnership and Transformation (Partnership & Performance)
Sharon Robertson, Chief Social Work Officer (People)
Wendy Forrest, Head of Strategic Planning & Health Improvement
Joanna McDonald, Interim Chief Officer for Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
Euan Murray, Chief Finance Officer, Clackmannanshire & Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
Sarah Goldberg, Team Leader, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance)
Sarah Langsford, Senior Manager, HR and Workforce Development (Acting) (P&P)
Jim Young, Child Protection Lead Officer ((People)
Fi Grinly, Strategy and Performance Adviser (Partnership & Performance)
Katie Roddie, Housing Service Policy and Innovation Co-ordinator (Place)
Andrew Buchanan, Team Leader, Housing Business Management (Place)
Sarah McPhee, Senior Internal Auditor, Falkirk Council
Melanie Moore, Committee Services, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance) (Minute)
Gillian White, Committee Services, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance)

ON TEAMS

Colin Bruce, Chief Education Officer (People)
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer (Partnership & Performance)
Donna Tierney, Accountant (Partnership & Performance)
Rebecca McConnachie, External Auditor, Deloitte
Robbie Stewart, Senior Manager, Sport & Leisure (People)
Wendy Robertson, Senior Manager, Transformation & Capital

AS(25)28 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Phil Fairlie, Councillor Law attended today as substitute for Councillor Fairlie.

AS(25)29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**AS(25)30 MINUTE OF AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON
17 APRIL 2025**

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 17 April 2025 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 17 April 2025 were agreed as a correct record by the Committee and signed off by the Chair.

AS(25)31 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

This report, submitted by the Internal Audit Manager, presented the 2025/26 Internal Audit Plan for approval.

Motion

That the Committee agreed the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Renne. Seconded by Councillor Denis Coyne.

Decision

The Committee agreed to:

1. Note the resources available to Internal Audit;
2. Note the Plan is indicative and flexible;
3. Approve the Internal Audit Plan for 2025/26; and
4. Note the progress will be reported to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on an ongoing basis.

Action

Internal Audit Manager

AS(25)32 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS – PROGRESS REPORT

This report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Partnership and Performance, provided Committee with a further update on progress towards completing actions identified from Internal Audit reports.

Motion

That the Committee agreed the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

Having challenged and commented the report, the Committee agreed to note the report.

**AS(25)33 HSCP – CLACKMANNANSHIRE LOCALITY PERFORMANCE REPORT
2024/25 Q3 & Q4 (OCTOBER TO MARCH)**

This report, submitted by the Head of Strategic Planning and Health Improvement, highlighted the work and performance of the Clackmannanshire and Stirling and Social Care Partnership in relation to performance for the locality of Clackmannanshire.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

Having challenged and commented the report, the Committee agreed to note the report.

**AS(25)34 SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR ANNUAL RETURN OF THE
CHARTER (ARC)**

This report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Place, provided information to Committee on the Annual Return of Charter (ARC) submitted to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) on 31 May 2025 (Appendix 1). The purpose of this report is to allow Housing Service performance to be scrutinised in a meaningful way.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Denis Coyne.

Decision

Having challenged and commented the report, the Committee agreed to note the report.

AS(25)35 CLACKMANNANSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

This report, submitted by the Child Protection Lead Officer, presented the Clackmannanshire Child Protection Committee Annual Report reflecting the reporting period for 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (appendix 1).

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

The Committee agreed to:

1. Consider and note the Clackmannanshire Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2023-24 (appended) and;
2. Note that the Clackmannanshire Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2023-24 has been endorsed by the Public Protection Chief Officers group.

Action

Child Protection Lead Officer

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11.38 am for a comfort break. When the meeting resumed at 11.50 am, 7 members remained present.

AS(25)36 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023-24: END OF YEAR PROGRESS

This report, submitted by the Strategy and Performance Adviser, provided an end-of-year update on the improvement actions within Clackmannanshire Council's Annual Governance Statement (AGS) due for progress or delivery by 31 March 2025.

Councillor Keogh left during questions on this next item (12 noon).

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Denis Coyne.

Decision

Having challenged and commented the report, the Committee agreed to note the report.

AS(25)37 AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN 2025/26

This report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Partnership and Performance, enabled members to review and approve the Audit and Scrutiny Committee's forward plan for 2025-26, agree on the process for completing the Committee's self-evaluation to inform its Annual Report, and note the progress of the Committee's agreed training plan.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janine Rennie. Seconded by Councillor Ellen Forson.

Decision

The Committee agreed to:

1. Approve the draft forward plan as set out at Appendix 1;
2. Agree that all Committee members complete the online self-evaluation questionnaire, Appendix 2 by 5 September 2025;
3. Agree that all Committee members will meet informally during September 2025 to review the results of the self-evaluation exercise. This will support the preparation of the Committee's Annual Report for consideration at the October 2025 meeting and subsequent submission to Council; and
4. Note the progress made in relation to the 2024/25 training plan (as detailed in paragraph 3.7).

EXEMPT ITEM

The Council resolved in terms of Section 50(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraph 12 and 14

AS(25)38 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL ASSURANCE REPORT 2024/25

The minute from this item of business is recorded separately.

