



Report To:	Audit & Governance Committee
Date:	26 th March 2025
Subject:	Combined Assurance Status Report 2024/25
Purpose:	To review the Combined Assurance Status Report 2024/25
Key Decision:	N/A
Portfolio Holder:	N/A
Report Of:	Senior Leadership Team
Report Author:	John Medler, Assistant Director, Governance & Monitoring Officer
Ward(s) Affected:	None
Exempt Report:	No

Summary

The Combined Assurance Status Report provides a record of assurance against the Council's critical services, key risks, partnerships and projects. It supports the Council's commitment to achieving good corporate governance.

Recommendations

That the Committee reviews the Combined Assurance Status Report 2024/25 (attached at **Appendix 1**) and seeks to assure itself that the findings illustrate that the assurance framework is operating effectively as part of the Council's corporate governance arrangements.

Reasons for Recommendations

To support corporate governance arrangements within the Council.

Other Options Considered

None

1. Background

- 1.1 The purpose of the Combined Assurance Status Report (**Appendix 1**) is to produce a record of assurance against the Council's critical services, key risks, partnerships and projects.

2. Report

- 2.1 This report provides an overview of assurance across the Council making it possible to identify where assurances are present, their source and where there are potential 'unknowns or gaps.' It offers a triangulated view of assurance with opinion provided by management, corporate and/or third-party assurance and Internal Audit. The Combined Assurance Report is produced annually, and this report covers the year 2024/5.

- 2.2 The report details the methodology that was used, and the levels of assurance identified. The assurance assessment, as explained in the report, is based on the 'three levels of assurance' model. By conducting this work, the Council is in a position to be able to identify where it needs to obtain further assurance and at what levels.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. The findings will be used to focus on areas of improvement and helps to inform the Internal Audit workplan 2025/6 and the Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2025/6.

Implications

South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Effective governance arrangements support the work of the Partnership.

Corporate Priorities

Effective governance arrangements are an essential element of the delivery of all corporate priorities.

Staffing

None

Workforce Capacity Implications

None

Constitutional and Legal Implications

None

Data Protection

None

Financial

Effective corporate governance arrangements ensure that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently, and effectively.

Risk Management

None

Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

None

Reputation

None

Contracts

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

None

Health and Wellbeing

None

Climate Change and Environmental Implications

none

Acronyms

none

Appendices

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report:

Appendix 1

Combined Assurance Status Report 2024/25

Background Papers

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

Chronological History of this Report

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

Report Approval

Report author:	John Medler, Assistant Director, Governance & Monitoring Officer
Signed off by:	John Medler, Assistant Director, Governance & Monitoring Officer
Approved for publication:	Senior Leadership Team