

REPORT OF: STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

TO: EXECUTIVE

DATES: 10th DECEMBER, 2015

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ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2014/15

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present Grant Thornton's Annual Audit Letter for 2014/15 which was issued in October.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Executive accept the Annual Audit Letter for 2014/15 as shown at [Appendix A](#).

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To accept Grant Thornton's Annual Audit Letter for 2014/15.

ISSUE

Annual Audit Letter

1. Annually, the Council's External Auditor submits a report to the Council providing an overall summary of the work it has undertaken on the audit of the Council. The Annual Audit Letter for 2014/15 is provided at [Appendix A](#).
2. The letter is relatively brief reflecting a narrower focus in audit work following the Government's review of external audit arrangements.
3. The key messages arising from the audit work are set out on page 3 and 4 of the Letter. The audit comprised two elements - the audit of the financial statements including the Audit Opinion and the Auditor's assessment of the Council's arrangements for value for money in the use of resources.
4. In relation to the financial statements, an unqualified opinion has been issued and, in relation to the use of resources, the Auditor has concluded that proper arrangements exist to secure value for money.

Policy

5. There are no policy implications arising from the contents of this report.

Financial

6. There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report. For information, the Audit Fees for 2014/15 are £68k.

Legal

7. There are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report.

Risk Management

8. There are no risk management issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

Health and Safety:

9. There are no Health and Safety implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

Sustainability:

10. There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Community Safety:

11. There are no community safety issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

Equality and Diversity:

12. There are no equality and diversity issues arising from the contents of this report.

APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#) – Annual Audit Letter 2014/15