

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

30 January 2024

Report of: Head of Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services

Contact for further information: James Pierce (Extn. 5202)

(E-mail: james.pierce@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: GRANT THORNTON - EXTERNAL AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To receive the External Audit Findings Report (AFR) report from our External Auditors.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the report be considered and that any questions be raised with the Grant Thornton representatives who will be attending the meeting.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 Our external auditors have asked for the report contained in the Appendix to be included on the agenda for this meeting so that Members may give them due consideration.

4.0 GRANT THORNTON REPORT

4.1 Representatives of Grant Thornton will introduce and explain the contents of the report at the Committee meeting and will be able to answer any questions that Members may have on their contents.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 The work that our External Auditors undertake is an integral part of the Council's control framework and provides assurance to Members that the Council is operating effectively.

7.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no Health and Wellbeing implications of this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - External Audit Findings Report (AFR)