



AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

5 September 2017

Report of: Borough Treasurer

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SUBJECT: GRANT THORNTON - AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To receive a report from our External Auditors setting out their findings on the audit of the accounts and value for money.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the report be noted.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 A report on the Statement of Accounts for 2016-17 was considered by this Committee at its meeting in June. The unaudited accounts were published at this time and a notice placed on the Council website to make Members of the Public aware of their rights to inspect the accounts.

3.2 During July and August a team of auditors from Grant Thornton has spent several weeks auditing the accounts and reviewing the Statement. The External Auditors are now required to present their findings from this audit in a report to Members.

4.0 AUDIT FINDINGS

- 4.1 At the time of writing this report the external auditors had almost completed their audit on the accounts, and the results of this work are set out in the Appendix. This shows that it is expected that the Council will receive an unqualified opinion on its accounts and provides a positive conclusion on value for money.
- 4.2 Representatives of Grant Thornton will attend the Committee meeting to present their findings and answer any questions that Members may have on the audit of the accounts.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. The report has no significant links with the Sustainable Community Strategy.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 The audit of the Statement of Accounts is part of the overall control framework that is designed to ensure that the Council properly accounts for the use of its assets and resources.

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 – Grant Thornton Audit Findings Report (To Follow)