

REPORT TO	ON
Governance Committee	18 April 2018

External Audit Annual



TITLE	REPORT OF
External Audit Progress Report and Sector Update	Deputy Chief Executive (Resources & Transformation)

Is this report confidential?	No
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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report provides the Governance Committee with information from the Council’s external auditors, Grant Thornton, on progress in delivering their responsibilities. The paper, attached at Appendix A, also includes:

- a summary of emerging national issues and developments that may be relevant to local authority; and
- a number of challenge questions in respect of these emerging issues which the Committee may wish to consider

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That members note the contents of the external auditors report (Appendix A).

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Excellence and Financial Sustainability	✓
Health and Wellbeing	
Place	

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

People	
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4. DETAILS

Each year the council’s auditors, Grant Thornton, are required to present a report on progress and plans in relation to the audit of the council’s statutory accounts and other audit related matters. The attached progress report includes information in relation to the following:

- 2017/18 statutory audit and VFM update
- certification of claims and returns
- accounts audit plan 2017/18
- update on technical and local authority matters

The update on technical matters has been discussed within the council and arrangements are in place to ensure there is full compliance with the changes outlined in the new codes of practice.

5. WIDER IMPLICATIONS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION

5.1 Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

The attached report is for information only and therefore there are no direct financial implications. The changes in the codes of practice as set out in the report are however being fully considered and will be reflected in future statements of accounts to ensure full compliance with the new requirements.

5.2 Comments of the Monitoring Officer

There are no legal implications arising as the report is essentially for information.

<p>Other implications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Risk ▶ Equality & Diversity ▶ HR & Organisational Development ▶ Property & Asset Management ▶ ICT / Technology 	<p>This is a progress report and update to the Governance committee and therefore there are no direct implications.</p>
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6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Appendix A: Audit Progress Report and Sector Update (Grant Thornton)

SMT Member's Name: Lisa Kitto

Job Title: Deputy Chief Executive (Resources & Transformation)

Report Author:	Telephone:	Date:
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