

**Report to:**               **Audit Committee**

**Date of Meeting:**   **22 January 2020**

**Report Title:**       **The Annual Audit Letter for Hastings Borough Council – Year ended 31 March 2019**

**Report By:**           **Peter Grace, Assistant Director Financial Services & Revenues**

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### **Purpose of Report**

To inform the Audit Committee of the contents of the Annual Audit Letter for the Year ended 31 March 2019 which is a concise summary of the work carried out by External Audit (Grant Thornton).

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### **Recommendation(s)**

- 1. To approve the Annual Audit Letter for Hastings Borough Council – Year ended 31 March 2019**

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### **Reasons for Recommendations**

The Annual Audit Letter is for all councillors and the public and will be posted to the council's website. It is of particular interest to those charges with governance.

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## Introduction

1. The Annual Audit Letter for Hastings Borough Council for the Year ended 31 March 2019 is one of External Audit's key outputs. It summarises the key findings arising from the work carried out by External Audit at Hastings Borough Council and its subsidiary (the group) for the year ended 31 March 2019.
2. The letter is intended to provide a commentary on the results of the external audit work to the group and external stakeholders and to highlight issues that Grant Thornton wish to draw to the attention of the general public.
3. The detailed letter can be found at appendix A.
4. We are expecting a senior manager, the Engagement Lead, from Grant Thornton to attend the meeting and present the report.

### Timetable of Next Steps

5. Please include a list of key actions and the scheduled dates for these:

Action	Key milestone	Due date (provisional)	Responsible
Not applicable – this is an information report for the public	-	-	-

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**Wards Affected**

None.

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**Implications**

Relevant project tools applied? ~~Yes/No/N/A~~

Have you checked this report for plain English and readability? Yes/~~No~~

Climate change implications considered? ~~Yes/No~~

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness  
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)  
Risk Management ✓  
Environmental Issues  
Economic/Financial Implications ✓  
Human Rights Act  
Organisational Consequences  
Local People's Views  
Anti-Poverty

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**Additional Information**

Appendix A - The Annual Audit Letter for Hastings Borough Council – Year ended 31 March 2019

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**Officer to Contact**

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