

Report To: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: 18 November 2021

Report Title: Grant Thornton Audit Completion Report - Audit for the year ended 31 March 2020

Report By: Peter Grace, Assistant Director Financial Services & Revenues
(Chief Finance Officer)

Key Decision: No

Purpose of Report

To consider the matters raised by the Council's external auditors (Grant Thornton) in respect of their Governance Report . This includes the audit opinion of the Council's 2019/20 accounts, and their value for money assessment of the Council.

Recommendation

- 1. That the report and action plan be accepted.**
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Reasons for Recommendations

Compliance with statutory requirements and good practice. The Council is accountable for the use of public money and continuously seeks to improve Value for Money. The Council's external auditors are required to submit a report to the Council's Audit Committee on any matters that are identified during their audit.

Introduction

1. The report summarises the principal matters arising from the audit carried out by Grant Thornton along with other areas that they are required to give an opinion on. Auditing standards require the external auditors to report to those charged with governance, certain matters before giving an opinion on the accounts.
2. A Senior Grant Thornton representative is expected to attend the Committee and present the report.
3. The Audit Findings Report is attached at Appendix 1.

Timetable of Next Steps

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

Action	Key milestone	Due date (provisional)	Responsible
Accepted actions per the Audit Findings report	-	Per the Audit Findings report	Chief Accountant

Wards Affected

None.

Policy Implications

Reading Ease Score: Flesch-Kincaid grade 11.1

Have you used relevant project tools?: N/A

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

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	Yes
Environmental Issues & Climate Change	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No
Legal	No

Additional Information

Appendix A – Grant Thornton Audit Findings Report - Audit for the year ended 31 March 2020

Officer to Contact

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