

Audit Findings Report

Governance and Audit Committee 25 November 2020

Report Author Chris Blundell, Director of Finance and deputy section 151 Officer

Portfolio Holder Cllr Rob Yates, Cabinet Member for Finance, Administration and Community Wealth Building

Status For Decision

Classification: Unrestricted

Key Decision No

Ward: All Wards

Executive Summary:

The Council's external auditor Grant Thornton is required to report its audit findings from its audit of the accounts to this Committee

Recommendation(s):

The Audit Findings Report for 2019-20 be considered as set out in Annex 1

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

The audit fee is disclosed within the Audit Findings Report

Legal

This is a statutory requirement in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and, Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and The Code of Audit Practice

Corporate

This is part of the external audit process.

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and

(iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- *Growth*
- *Environment*
- *Communities*

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The draft Statement of Accounts for 2019-20 have been audited and the audit findings are set out in detail in Grant Thornton's Audit Findings Report (AFR), shown in Annex 1.
- 1.2. The Committee is asked to consider the audit findings and to note the report.

2. Audit Findings Report

- 2.1. A representative from Grant Thornton will attend the committee meeting and present the key findings arising from the audit of the 2019-20 accounts.

Contact Officer: *Chris Blundell (Director of Finance)*

Reporting to: *Tim Willis (Deputy Chief Executive)*

Annex List

Annex 1: Audit Findings Report

Background Papers

Title: N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance: *N/A*

Legal: *Tim Howes (Corporate Director - Governance)*

