

## **Audit Progress Report and Sector Update**

<b>Governance &amp; Audit Committee</b>	27 September 2023
<b>Report Author</b>	Chris Blundell (Director of Corporate Services - S151)
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Cllr Rob Yates, Cabinet Member Corporate Services.
<b>Status</b>	For Information
<b>Classification:</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Key Decision</b>	No

### **Executive Summary:**

The sector update provided by Grant Thornton is attached and provides an up to date summary of emerging national issues and developments in order to try and support Local Government.

### **Recommendation(s):**

1. That the sector update be noted.

### **Corporate Implications**

#### **Financial and Value for Money**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

#### **Legal**

The audit of the Council's accounts is governed by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

#### **Corporate**

The audit of the accounts is a statutory requirement

#### **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.

There are no equity or equalities issues arising from this report.

## **Corporate Priorities**

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Growth
- Environment
- Communities

## **1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 Grant Thornton, the Council's appointed external auditor, has submitted their sector update report for consideration, this is attached at Annex 1, following consultation with the Section 151 Officer and his deputy.
- 1.2 The committee is asked to note the report and make comments as appropriate.
- 1.3 A representative from Grant Thornton will attend the meeting to present the report.

Contact Officer: Matthew Sanham (Head of Finance, Procurement and Risk)

Reporting to: Chris Blundell (Director of Corporate Services - S151)

### **Annex List**

Annex 1: Audit Progress Report and Sector Update

### **Corporate Consultation**

**Finance:** N/A

**Legal:** N/a