

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE 24 September 2013

Report of the Strategic Director for Resources

External Audit Annual Report to Those Charged with Governance 2012/13 (ISA 260)

SUMMARY

1.1 As part of the International Standard on Auditing 260 (ISA 260), the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton are required to report the outcome of the audit of accounts 2012/13 to the Audit and Accounts Committee. The report is attached at **Appendix 2**.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the annual report from Grant Thornton attached at **Appendix 2** detailing their findings together with their recommendations and to request updates on the Action Plan contained within the report.
- 2.2 To use the findings and recommendations arising from the Grant Thornton report to inform the committee's opinion on the overall effectiveness of the Council's financial reporting arrangements and to consider whether there are specific matters that prevent the formal adoption of the financial statements.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Council is responsible for ensuring that proper arrangements are in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 Grant Thornton's report, attached at **Appendix 2**, details the findings from the audit, together with recommendations and an action plan.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Not Applicable
Financial officer	Chloe Bowes, Head of Corporate Finance
Human Resources officer	Not Applicable
Estates/Property officer	Not Applicable
Service Director(s)	Not Applicable
Other(s)	Not Applicable

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Report from Grant Thornton (To Follow)

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 Detailed in **Appendix 2**.

Legal

2.1 Compliance with the International Standard on Auditing (UK & Ireland) (ISA 260) to report the outcome of the audit to "those charged with governance".

Personnel

3.1 None directly arising.

Equalities Impact

4.1 None directly arising.

Health and Safety

5.1 None directly arising.

Environmental Sustainability

6.1 None directly arising.

Asset Management

7.1 As detailed in the report.

Risk Management

8.1 As detailed in the report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

9.1 The areas that are to be subject to external audit or inspection are generally relevant to delivery of corporate objectives and priorities.