

Audit Committee

20 January 2020



Report of: *Grant Thornton UK LLP*

Title: *Grant Thornton ISA 260 Report*

Ward: *City Wide*

Officer Presenting Report: *Grant Thornton UK LLP*

Recommendation

The Audit Committee note, and comment as appropriate, on Grant Thornton's Audit Report for 2018/19 and the action plan agreed by management.

Summary

Attached to this report is Grant Thornton's Audit Report to those charged with governance, which highlights the key issues arising from the audit of the Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019 to date. This report enables Grant Thornton to discharge their responsibilities in accordance with International Standards of Auditing (ISA) 260. It also reports their conclusion on whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

At the time of publication there remains some final testing and quality review to carry out. If this results in any changes to the accounts an addendum will be issued to members. Grant Thornton are proposing to issue an unqualified audit opinion both on the Council's financial statements and VFM conclusion, subject to satisfactory clearance of the final remaining issues.

A number of recommendations have been made to management with regards to improvements required. Management responses to these recommendations have been provided as set out in the Action Plan within the report.



Policy

None affected by this report. The Audit Commission has statutory responsibility for inspection and assessment at the Council. Grant Thornton are the Council's appointed external auditors. In carrying out their audit and inspection duties they have to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, namely the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Consultation

1. Internal

Grant Thornton have discussed and agreed the findings of the audit with the the Director of Finance and with Senior Finance Officers.

2. External

None

Background and Context

1. Grant Thornton is required to form an opinion on the Council's annual financial statements and to provide a value for money conclusion. This report sets out the outcomes of the audit of the Council's financial statements to date and the issues arising.
2. Jackson Murray will be attending the Committee and will be pleased to answer Members' questions.

Other Options Considered

Not applicable

Risk Assessment

None necessary for this report

Public Sector Equality Duties

None necessary for this report

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

None arising from this report

Financial

None arising from this report.

Land

Not applicable

Personnel

Not Applicable

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Grant Thornton's Audit Report 2018/19

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None