

AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT 2015/16 ACCOUNTS

Report of the: Director of Finance and Resources
Contact: Kathryn Beldon
Urgent Decision? (yes/no) No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:
Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 - Audit Findings Report 2015/16

Other available papers (not attached): Financial Statements 2015/16

REPORT SUMMARY

This report covers Grant Thornton's audit findings following audit of the Financial Statements for 2015/16.

RECOMMENDATION (S)	<i>Notes</i>
That the Committee: - (1) Receives the Audit Findings for 2015/16 which were agreed by the Strategy and Resources Committee on 27 September 2016.	

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

1.1 There is no specific key priority covering the annual audit.

2 Background

2.1 Grant Thornton, the Council's external auditor, have issued its Audit Findings following the completion of the audit of the Financial Statements. The report is attached in Annexe 1 for information.

3 Outcome of Audit

3.1 The following specific points are made in the report:-

3.1.1 The Auditors anticipate an unqualified opinion on the Council's Financial Statements.

3.1.2 Any adjustments required have been agreed and implemented and they did not affect the Council's reported outturn position or cash reserves.

3.1.3 The auditor has issued an unqualified conclusion on Value for Money.

4 Action Plan

4.1 Appendix A of the Audit Findings report includes recommendations where management action has been agreed with the auditors.

5 Proposals

5.1 The Committee is asked to receive the Audit Findings for 2015/16.

6 Financial and Manpower Implications

6.1 The audit has been completed within the budget previously reported.

6.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** These are contained in the main report.

7 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

7.1 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** The requirements for external audit are set out in the executive summary of the Audit Findings report.

8 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

8.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

9 Partnerships

9.1 There are no implications for the purpose of this report.

10 Risk Assessment

10.1 The external audit contributes towards effective corporate governance of the Council.

11 Conclusion and Recommendations

11.1 The external auditors have given an unqualified opinion on the Council's Financial Statements.

11.2 The Financial Statements have been published following signature and certification.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All