


REPORT TO AUDIT AND RISK ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

08 November 2018

Subject:	Grant Thornton Audit Progress Report and Sector Update
Director:	Executive Director – Resources – Darren Carter
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Rebecca Griffiths Head of Finance rebecca_griffiths@sandwell.gov.uk

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Audit and Risk Assurance Committee:

1. Note the contents of the Audit Progress Report and Sector Update from the new External Auditors Grant Thornton.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee of the Audit Progress Report and Sector Update provided by the new External Auditors Grant Thornton.

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2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee helps strengthen the risk, governance and internal control environment.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The council's new External Auditors Grant Thornton have provided an Audit Progress Report and Sector Update in order to introduce themselves to the Committee.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The report does not require a decision and therefore, no position analysis is necessary.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 The outcomes of the individual reports have been discussed with the relevant stakeholders and reported to the respective Director.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 The report does not require a decision and therefore, alternative options do not need to be considered.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct financial and resource implications arising from this report.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The council is not obliged by law to appoint an Audit Committee, but this course of action has been taken in line with guidance from CIPFA.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 It was not necessary to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10.1 It was not necessary to undertake a Data Protection Impact Assessment. Data gathered during audit reviews is used and retained in accordance with current legislative requirements.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 There are no direct risk implications arising from this report.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 There are no direct sustainability issues arising from this report.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 There are no direct health and wellbeing implications from this report.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 There is no direct impact on any council managed property or land from this report.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee of the Audit Progress Report and Sector Update from the new External Auditors Grant Thornton. As such, no decision is required.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None.

17 APPENDICES:

17.1 Audit Progress Report and Sector Update

Darren Carter, Executive Director – Resources