

## External Audit Update

Report of the Head of Finance & Revenues

### Recommended:

1. That the Audit Planning Report, as shown in Annex 1 to the report, be noted.
2. That the Draft Audit Results Report, as shown in Annex 2 to the report, be noted.

### SUMMARY:

- The audit of the 2021/22 Statement of Accounts is currently being undertaken by the Council's external auditors, Ernst & Young.
- The auditors will present their Audit Planning Report and Draft Audit Results Report to the Committee.

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Each year, the Council's Statement of Accounts is subject to an external audit. The Council's auditor is Ernst & Young (EY).
- 1.2 Throughout the planning and substantive phases of the audit EY present reports to the Audit Committee.
- 1.3 Attached to this covering report are two updates. These are:
  - The Audit Planning Report
  - Draft Audit Results Report
- 1.4 Ordinarily the planning report would be presented ahead of audit. However, the reasons for this not being possible were explained by EY at the Audit Committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> June. It was agreed that the planning report be presented alongside a progress report at this meeting.
- 1.5 Both reports will be introduced to the committee by representatives from EY.

### 2 Risk Management

- 2.1 An evaluation of the risks indicate that the existing controls in place mean that no significant risks have been identified at this time.

### 3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 The cost of the annual audit is included in the approved budget. There are no other resource implications arising from this report.

#### **4 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

#### **5 Conclusion and reasons for recommendation**

- 5.1 Work is well-progressed on the audit of the Council's 2021/22 statement of accounts. Members are presented with a progress update and opportunity to discuss with the Council's external auditor matters related to the audit of the accounts.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
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<u>Confidentiality</u>			
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It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
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No of Annexes:	2	File Ref:	N/A
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Report to:	Audit Committee	Date:	26 September 2022