

7 September 2020**Agenda Item: 10****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND
IMPROVEMENT****GRANT THORNTON – EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the progress made to date on the external audit of the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts.

Information

2. The COVID19 emergency and the subsequent extension to the Local Authority audit timetable has had a significant impact upon the External Audit Plan as reported to Committee in March 2020. John Gregory, Engagement Lead (Grant Thornton) and Lorraine Noak, Audit Manager (Grant Thornton) will provide a verbal update to set out the progress that has been made to date on the external audit of the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts and the proposed timeline for bringing future reports to Committee.

Other Options Considered

3. The report is for comment only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

4. To provide information to Members on the progress made to date on the external audit of the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

6. The anticipated total fees, excluding the indicative fee for grant claim certification, are £90,624 for Nottinghamshire County Council and £27,293 for the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund. This is in line with the initial proposal and budget provision is in place.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Members comment upon the verbal presentation provided by our external auditors, Grant Thornton.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Glen Bicknell, Senior Finance Business Partner, Financial Strategy and Compliance.

Constitutional Comments (21/08/2020 SS)

7. The proposal in this report is within the remit of the Governance and Ethics Committee

Financial Comments (20/08/2020 GB)

8. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All