

15 June 2017**Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, PROCUREMENT &
IMPROVEMENT****MANDATORY INQUIRIES – 2016-17 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the External Auditors' requirement for the provision of information regarding the Council's approach to dealing with fraud, litigation, laws and regulations as part of their audit of the County Council's accounts for 2016/17 and to allow Members to comment on the response related to 'Those Charged with Governance'.

Information and Advice

2. As part of the annual approach taken by our External Auditors, KPMG seek responses to matters concerning the Council's approach and reporting on a number of areas, in particular related to themes surrounding fraud, litigation, laws and regulations, together with some areas specific to the accounts such as related parties and estimates used in the accounts. The responses to these questions form part of the overall audit and will inform the approach taken by KPMG to the audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2016/17.
3. Attached for Members to comment upon is the questionnaire for completion by the Governance and Ethics Committee as 'Those Charged with Governance'.
4. A number of further mandatory questionnaires completed by Internal Audit, Legal Services and Management are available as background papers. These questionnaires set out the responses to inquiries made on the themes set out above.

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Members receive, and comment upon, the inquiries for those charged with governance for the 2016/17 audit of the Statement of Accounts.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments

6. As this report is for noting only, no constitutional comments are required.

Financial Comments (GB 02/06/2017)

7. There are no direct financial implications arising from this 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.

- Mandatory Inquiry responses completed by Internal Audit, Legal and Management.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All