

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR - FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT**CERTIFICATION OF GRANTS AND RETURNS - KPMG ANNUAL REPORT
2012/13****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the External Auditors' Annual Report 2012/13 on the certification of Grants and Returns.

Information and Advice

2. The attached report from KPMG summarises the findings from the External Auditor's certification of 2012/13 grants.
3. Only two grant claims were subject to audit in 2012/13 and unfortunately, the Teachers' Pension Return claim was qualified by the External Auditors. The issue related only to the completion of the required analysis on the return rather than to computation issues. The qualification letter indicated that 'the Council experienced difficulties implementing the tiered contribution rates and as a result the payroll system was unable to produce the banding information required in Section 3 Analysis of Contribution Tier. Testing has indicated that the Teachers' contributions have been deducted at the appropriate rate and the Employers contributions have been correctly calculated.'
4. The report is presented to Members for their information. The Audit Director (KPMG), Neil Bellamy, and Richard Walton, the Audit Manager (KPMG), will be in attendance at the meeting to introduce the report and respond to Member's questions.

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service 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

6. That Members receive, and comment upon, the Certification of Grants and Returns Annual Report 2012/13.

Paul Simpson
Service Director (Finance and Procurement)

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
Nigel Stevenson

Constitutional Comments

7. Because this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments

8. The cost of certifying the 2012/13 grants claims and returns was £3,979.

Background Papers

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.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All