

13 December 2017

Agenda Item: 4

## **REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, PROCUREMENT AND IMPROVEMENT.**

## **EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2016/17 AND PROGRESS REPORT**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the External Auditors' Annual Audit Letter 2016-17.
2. For Members to comment on the External Auditors' Progress Report.

### **Information and Advice**

3. The attached annual audit letter from KPMG summarises findings from work carried out by the external auditors over the last financial year (2016/17).
4. All Councils are subject to independent external review with the final conclusions and recommendations being presented to the Council in the Annual Audit Letter (AAL). The AAL provides a clear, readily understandable commentary on the results of the auditor's work and highlights any issues that the auditor wishes to draw to the attention of the public.
5. The report is presented to Members for their information. The Audit Director (KPMG), Tony Crawley will be in attendance at the meeting to introduce the report and respond to Members' queries.
6. The attached progress report provides an overview of the progress made by the external auditors with regard to delivering their responsibilities. It also highlights the main technical issues that are impacting upon local government including the General Data Protection Regulations and Faster Accounts Close for Local Government. Again, the Audit Director (KPMG) will be in attendance to respond to Members' queries.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

7. To provide information to Members on the External Auditors' Annual Audit Letter 2016/17 and Progress Report.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. 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 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 comment upon the External Auditors' Annual Audit Letter 2016/17.
- 2) That Members comment upon the External Auditors' Progress Report.

**Nigel Stevenson**

**Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Nigel Stevenson tel. 0115-9773033

### **Constitutional Comments (SLB 28/11/2017)**

9. Governance and Ethics Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

### **Financial Comments (GB 20/11/2017)**

10. The total audit fees were £98,213 for Nottinghamshire County Council and £29,926 for the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund.

### **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