

**31 March 2021****Agenda Item:****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND  
IMPROVEMENT.****EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2019/20****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the External Auditors' Annual Audit Letter 2019/20.

**Information and Advice**

2. The attached Annual Audit Letter from Grant Thornton (Appendix A) summarises findings from work carried out by the external auditors over the last financial year (2019/20).
3. At the November 2020 Governance and Ethics Committee the Audit Findings Report 2019/20 was presented to Members.
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 (Grant Thornton), John Gregory will be in attendance at the meeting to introduce the report and respond to Members' queries.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

6. To provide information to Members on the External Auditors' Annual Audit Letter 2019/20.

**Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. 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.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That Members comment upon the External Auditors' Annual Audit Letter 2019/20.

**Nigel Stevenson**  
**Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**  
Nigel Stevenson tel. 0115-9773033

**Constitutional Comments (KK 15/03/2021)**

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

**Financial Comments (GB 15/03/2021)**

9. The total audit fees were £104,200 for Nottinghamshire County Council and £28,576 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