



3 May 2023

Agenda Item: 8

**REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE &
IMPROVEMENT**

**INFORMING THE AUDIT RISK ASSESSMENT – 2022-23 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 2022/23 and to allow Members to comment on the response.

Information

2. As part of the annual approach taken by our External Auditors, Grant Thornton seek responses to matters concerning the Council's approach and reporting on a number of areas, in particular related to themes surrounding fraud, going concern, 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, set out in the Appendix to this report, form part of the overall audit and will inform the approach taken by Grant Thornton to the audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2022/23.
3. The 2022/23 response to this request for information is attached for Members to comment upon.

Other Options Considered

4. The other option would be to not report the Informing the Risk Assessment 2022/23 responses but best practice indicates that this assessment should be reported to Governance and Ethics Committee ahead of the external audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts 2022/23 and so this option was rejected.

Reasons for Recommendation

5. For Members to consider and accept the Audit Risk Assessment 2022/23.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. 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 the Committee considers and accepts the 'Informing the Audit Risk Assessment for Nottinghamshire County Council for 2022/23' document from the external auditors.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (KK 20/04/2023)

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

Financial Comments (GB 19/04/2023)

8. 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.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All