

18 December 2018

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENT.

EXTERNAL AUDIT – PROGRESS REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To present to Members the External Auditors' latest Progress Report.

Information and Advice

2. Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA) carried out a procurement exercise in 2017 to appoint external auditors to 484 (98%) eligible authorities. Grant Thornton have been appointed the external auditors for Nottinghamshire County Council and the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund for the period 2018/19 to 2022/23.
3. The attached progress report from Grant Thornton provides an overview of the progress made to date with regard to delivering their responsibilities. It also highlights a number of emerging issues that are impacting upon local government nationally. The Audit Engagement Lead and the Audit Engagement Manager from Grant Thornton will be in attendance to present the report and respond to Members' queries.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

4. To provide information to Members on the External Auditors' latest Progress Report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. 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' latest Progress Report.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SLB 05/12/2018)

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

Financial Comments (GB 03/12/2018)

7. The total audit fees for the 2018/19 external audit are £75,624 for Nottinghamshire County Council and £23,043 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