

Subject:	Audit Findings Report 2013-14	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Audit and Accounts Committee	Date:	23 September 2014
Report of:	Grant Thornton	Portfolio Holder:	Finance and Resources
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Impact Assessment:	Required: No	Attached:	No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required: No	Attached:	No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	The Committee is asked to consider the attached Audit Findings Report for the Statement of Accounts 2013-14 as parts of its review and approval of the Statement of Accounts 2013-14.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To present Grant Thornton's Audit Findings Report following the audit of the accounts for 2013-14.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
- **Regenerating Rossendale:** This priority focuses on regeneration in its broadest sense, so it means supporting communities that get on well together, attracting investment, promoting Rossendale, as well as working as an enabler to promote the physical regeneration of Rossendale.
 - **Responsive Value for Money Services:** This priority is about the Council working collaboratively, being a provider, procurer and a commissioner of services that are efficient and that meet the needs of local people.
 - **Clean Green Rossendale:** This priority focuses on clean streets and town centres and well managed open spaces, whilst recognising that the Council has to work with communities and as a partner to deliver this ambition.

Strong financial control ensures the effective management of the Council's resources, which then enables the provision and delivery of value for money services.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This report is provided for information and to support the Audit and Accounts Committee's role in relation to review and approval of the Statement of Accounts 2013-14.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 Under the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice we are required to report whether, in our opinion, the Council's financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial position, its expenditure and income for the year and whether they have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice

on Local Authority Accounting. We are also required to reach a formal conclusion on whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources (the Value for Money conclusion).

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

6.1 All amendments identified within this report have been reflected in the audited Statement of Accounts presented to this Committee at item D2, Appendix 1.

7. MONITORING OFFICER

7.1 Any legal implications are commented upon in the report.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

8.1 No Policy implications. Reported findings have been discussed and agreed, including management responses to the recommendations, with the Head of Finance.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 The audit programme is progressing in line with the plan.

No background papers