

<b>Subject:</b>	Grant Certification Findings	<b>Status:</b>	For Publication
<b>Report to:</b>	Audit and Accounts Committee	<b>Date:</b>	17 March 2015
<b>Report of:</b>	Grant Thornton	<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Finance and Resources
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>General Exception</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Special Urgency</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Equality Impact Assessment:</b>	Required:	No	Attached: No
<b>Biodiversity Impact Assessment</b>	Required:	No	Attached: No
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<b>1.</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION(S)</b>
1.1	Members are asked to consider the Grant Certification Letter for the 2013/14 financial year.

**2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

2.1 The letter sets out our findings from our 2013/14 certification work and fee.

**3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

3.1 The matters discussed in this letter do not impact directly on the Council's corporate priorities:

**4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no risk assessment implications.

**5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS**

5.1 Various grant-paying bodies require external certification of claims for grant or subsidy and returns of financial information. At Rossendale only the Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim required certification in 2013/14.

5.2 The Audit Commission makes certification arrangements with grant-paying bodies. The arrangements include confirming which claims and returns require certification and issuing certification instructions.

5.3 As the Council's appointed external auditor, we undertake grant certification work acting as an agent of the Audit Commission. This letter sets out our findings from this work and confirms the fee.

**COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:**

**6. SECTION 151 OFFICER**

6.1 This is a report of the External Auditor

**7. MONITORING OFFICER**

7.1 This is a report of the External Auditor

**8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

8.1 Not applicable

**9. CONCLUSION**

9.1 There were no major issues identified from our work.