

Subject:	External Audit 2016-17 Fee letter	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Audit and Accounts Committee	Date:	20 June 2016
Report of:	Grant Thornton, (External Audit)	Portfolio Holder:	Resources and Performance
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Equality Impact Assessment:	Required:	No	Attached: No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required:	No	Attached: No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)		
1.1	Members are asked to note the 2016-17 Fee Letter.		

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 provides for the introduction of a new framework for local public audit. Under these provisions, the Audit Commission closed in March 2015 and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government delegated some statutory functions from the Audit Commission Act 1998 to Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA) on a transitional basis.

PSAA will oversee the Commission's audit contracts for local government bodies until they end in 2018, following the announcement by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) that it will extend transitional arrangements until 2017/18. PSAA's responsibilities include setting fees, appointing auditors and monitoring the quality of auditors' work.

PSAA have proposed that 2016/17 scale audit fees (excluding work completed on the Highways Network Asset) are set at the same level as the scale fees applicable for 2015/16. The Council's scale fee for 2016/17 has been set by PSAA at £45,796.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 This is a report of the External Auditor - The matters discussed in this report do not impact directly on the Council's corporate priorities.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This is a report of the External Auditor - There are no direct risk implications.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 The letter confirms the 2016/17 external audit fee which is set by PSAA.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 6.1 N/A - This is a report of the External Auditor

7. MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 N/A - This is a report of the External Auditor

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

8.1 N/A - This is a report of the External Auditor

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 Members are asked to note the 2016-17 Fee Letter.

No background papers (*delete where applicable*)