

REPORT FOR:

**GOVERNANCE, AUDIT,
RISK MANAGEMENT AND
STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting:

1 April 2015

Subject:

INFORMATION REPORT
Audit Plan 2014-15

Responsible Officer:

Simon George, Director of Finance and Assurance

Exempt:

No

Wards affected:

All

Enclosures:

Appendix 1 – Audit Plan 2014-15
Appendix 2 – Pension Fund Annual Report Audit Plan 2014-15
Appendix 3 – Audit Report on Grant Certification 2013-14

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This Report provides the Committee with the opportunity to see the Accounts Audit Plan 2014-15 and the Pension Fund Annual Report Audit Plan 2014-15.

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to note:

1. The 2014-15 Accounts Audit Plan and Pension Fund Annual Report Audit Plan; and
2. The Grants Certification Report for 2013-14.

Reason

To keep the Committee informed of planned work.

Section 2 – Report

Audit Plan for 2014-15

1. The Accounts Audit Plan provides the Council with clarity about how the external audit of the accounts for 2014-15 will be conducted. The audit planning report sets out the following:-
 - a. Estimated overall materiality is £7.5m for General Fund and £2.9m for HRA;
 - b. Impact on the Council's Statement of Accounts resulting from the developments in financial reporting standards;
 - c. Scope of audit work and approach;
 - d. Significant audit risks as summarised below:-
 - i. Grant income recognition;
 - ii. Management override of key controls which would include testing of journals, significant accounting estimates and any unusual transactions;
 - iii. Valuation of properties;
 - iv. Valuation of pension liability; and
 - v. Accounting for non-current assets used by schools.
 - e. Value for Money conclusion;
 - f. Auditors responsibilities; and
 - g. Audit fees and Timetable.
2. The Pension Fund planning report also sets out the scope of work and approach and identifies significant audit risks which includes Contributions, Benefits, Investments and Management override of controls which are similar to the Council as mentioned in d(ii) above.
3. The Committee is asked to consider both the plans.

Grant Certification 2013-14

4. The Report on Grant Certifications in relation to 2013-14 is attached as appendix 3 to this report. Three grant claims and returns were certified for 2013-14 of which Housing and Council Tax Benefit Subsidy resulted in a qualified opinion.

Section 3 - Financial Implications

5. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Section 4 - Equalities Implications

6. There are no equalities implications.

Section 5 - Corporate Priorities

7. The Statement of Accounts provides assurance that the Council has managed and delivered its finances in accordance with its approved plans and budget.

Section 6 – Statutory clearance

Name: Simon George

Chief Financial Officer

Date: 20th March 2015

Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Hasina Shah tel: 0208 424 1573 (ext. 2573)

Background Papers: None

Ward Councillors notified:

n/a