

## **Audit & Standards Committee**

**25 July 2018**

### **Audit & Standards Committee Annual Report 2017/18**

#### **Recommendation**

**That the Audit and Standards Committee approves its annual report 2017/18 before submission to Council.**

#### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The attached report (Appendix A) summarises the work undertaken by the Audit and Standards Committee during the municipal year 2017/18.
- 1.2 The Committee met four times during 2017/18 where members considered a substantial number of reports covering a variety of audit and standards work.
- 1.3 Following the County Council elections that took place in May 2017, the Audit and Standards Committee membership during 2017/18 was as follows:
  - John Bridgeman CBE (Independent member and Chair)
  - Bob Meacham OBE (Independent member and Vice-Chair)
  - Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi (Conservative)
  - Councillor Mark Cargill (Conservative)
  - Councillor Andy Crump (Conservative)
  - Councillor Bill Gifford (Liberal Democrat)
  - Councillor John Holland (Labour)
  - Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince (Conservative)
- 1.4 The Committee ensures that the Council has robust systems of internal control and makes sure that both councillors and officers follow high standards of conduct in the way they conduct the business of the council. Meetings are open to the public.

#### **2.0 Reports Considered During 2017/18**

- 2.1 The Audit and Standards Committee has considered a series of scheduled and requested reports during 2017/18.

- 2.2 The Committee considers a number of statutory reports on an annual basis which include the Annual Governance Statement, the External Auditors Report, the Internal Audit Strategy, the External Audit Plan, the Statement of Accounts and the Warwickshire Pension Fund Statement of Accounts.
- 2.3 The Committee also considers the Internal Audit Annual Report which is an audit professional standards requirement.
- 2.4 The Audit and Standards Committee considers the Statement of Accounts for the County Council and the Pension Fund in considerable detail before they are considered by Council.
- 2.5 Regular Internal Audit Progress reports are considered by the Committee where members are updated around ongoing internal audit investigations, proposed internal audit work and the progress being made by the Council on implementing internal audit recommendations.
- 2.6 Members also regularly consider emerging national issues and developments which are brought to their attention by the external auditors. This is undertaken primarily to seek assurance that the authority is aware of and considering these issues.

### 3.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 3.1 Subject to the report being approved by the Committee, the Annual Report will be submitted to Council for consideration on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

### Background papers

None

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Report Author	Ben Patel-Sadler	<a href="mailto:benpatelsadler@warwickshire.gov.uk">benpatelsadler@warwickshire.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01926 736 118
Head of Service	Sarah Duxbury	
Strategic Director	David Carter	
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Kam Kaur	

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s):

Other members: