

Audit and Standards Committee

30 November 2023

External Auditors Annual Report 2022/23

Recommendation

That the Committee consider the Annual Audit Letter of the External Auditors, attached at Appendix A, including whether any executive action is required.

1. Key Issues

- 1.1. A new Code of Audit Practice came into force from 1 April 2020 for audit years 2020/21 onwards. The most significant change under the new Code is the introduction of an Auditor's Annual Report, containing a commentary on the Council's arrangements for securing value for money alongside the audit opinion on the Council's accounts.
- 1.2. The purpose of preparing and issuing the Annual Audit Report is to communicate to the audited body and key external stakeholders, including members of the public, the key issues arising from auditors' work, which auditors consider should be brought to the attention of the audited body.
- 1.3. The Report, for 2022/23, is attached at **Appendix A** and covers both the County Council and Warwickshire Pension Fund. It summarises all of the work completed as part of the 2022/23 annual audit and review of value for money arrangements.
- 1.4. Following the consideration by this Committee, the Annual Audit Letter will go on to full Council for their consideration at their meeting on 19 December 2023. Any need for executive action raised by the Committee will be included a part of the covering report to full Council when the Annual Audit Letter is presented by the external auditors.
- 1.5. The 2022/23 Audit Findings report is attached at **Appendix A** to this report. The Engagement Partner for Grant Thornton and the Audit Manager will attend the meeting to present their report.

2. Financial Implications

2.1. None.

3. Environmental Implications

3.1. None.

4. Background Papers

4.1. None.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Virginia Rennie Head of Strategic Finance	vrennie@warwickshire.gov.uk
Director	Andrew Felton Director of Finance	andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Executive Director	Rob Powell Executive Director for Resources	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Peter Butlin Portfolio Holder – Finance and Property	peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

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

None