

Audit & Standards Committee

External Auditors Governance Report 2019/20 - Warwickshire Pension Fund

28th September 2020

Recommendation(s)

That the Committee:

1. Endorses the Audit Findings Report of the External Auditors for Warwickshire County Council, attached at Appendix 1, and consider whether there are any matters it wishes to bring to the attention of Council.
2. Approve, subject to any changes which may be necessary to the final draft, the wording of the Letter of Representation, attached at Appendix 2.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Our external auditors, Grant Thornton, are required to report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the County Council's financial statements before issuing their final opinion.
- 1.2 As part of the audit process the External Auditors require written confirmation about the fairness of various elements of the financial statements. This is known as the "Letter of Representation". In the letter the Strategic Director of Resources and those charged with governance on audit matters declare that the financial statements and other presentations to the auditor are sufficient and appropriate and without omission of material facts to the financial statements, to the best of their knowledge
- 1.3 The Audit and Standards Committee are asked to approve, subject to any changes which may be necessary to the final draft, the wording of the Letter of Representation for the County Council (Appendix 2).

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 None.

3. Environmental Implications

3.1 None.

4. Supporting Information

4.1 None.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

5.1 The final version of the letter of representation will be signed, by the Chair of the Council and the Strategic Director for Resources, when the accounts are approved by Council on 18th October 2020.

5.2 Following the completion of the reporting process a review of lessons learned will be undertaken to incorporate improvements into the process for the production of next year's accounts.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1 - Audit Findings Report
2. Appendix 2 - Draft Letter of Representation

Background Papers

1. None.

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

Local Member(s):

Other members: