

AUDIT, GOVERNANCE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

28th January 2016

GRANT THORNTON UPDATE – JANUARY 2016

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor John Fisher
Portfolio Holder Consulted	-
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering – Exec Director Finance and Resources
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non–Key Decision

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

To update Members on Grant Thornton's progress in delivering their responsibilities as the Council's external auditors, and emerging national issues and developments and that are relevant to the Council and may impact in the future.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to note the updates at Appendix 1 to the report.

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications

Legal Implications

- 3.2 The Council has a statutory responsibility to comply with financial regulations.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.3 The report attached at Appendix 1 updates Members on the progress on work undertaken by Grant Thornton since the last Committee meeting. The majority of the progress update refers to work that is reported in other items included in this agenda and sets out the plans that Audit have in place to address concerns previously raised and how the Audit will be progressed for 2015/16. In addition the appendix includes updates on the Emerging Issues and Developments that are relevant to the Council and may impact in the future.

- 3.4 These include

- Making Devolution Work
- Business Location Index
- Audit Committee Effectiveness
- Local Plans Delivery
- Efficiency of Council Tax Collection

AUDIT, GOVERNANCE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

28th January 2016

- Supporting Members in Governance

3.5 There are no issues that are not being addressed by officers to ensure the Council meets its statutory financial obligations.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.6 There are no implications arising out of this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

As part of all audit work the auditors undertake a risk assessment to ensure that adequate controls are in place within the Council so reliance can be placed on internal systems.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – January 2016 Grant Thornton Report

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7. KEY

N/a

AUTHOR OF REPORT

Name: Jayne Pickering
Email: j.pickering@bromsgrove&redditch.gov.uk
Tel: 01527 881207