

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT, GOVERNANCE & STANDARDS AND COMMITTEE 7th March 2019

GRANT THORNTON – AUDITING STANDARDS 2018/19

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Tom Baker Price
Portfolio Holder Consulted	N/A
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering – Executive Director Finance and Resources
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 To present Members with the Auditing Standards report for 2018/19 from the Councils External Auditors Grant Thornton.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **The Committee is asked to note the report and management responses.**

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report however robust internal financial control mechanisms as confirmed within this report reduce the costs associated with fraud and inaccurate accounting arrangements.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 Grant Thornton have a responsibility to ensure that robust systems are in place together with proactive communications with those charged with Governance.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.3 External Auditors have a duty in planning and performing their audit of the financial statements to understand how Cabinet, supported by the Council's management, and the Audit Committee meets its responsibilities in the following areas:

- Fraud
- Law and regulation
- Going concern
- Related parties
- Accounting for estimates

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The report attached at Appendix 1 details the management response in relation to the controls that are in place within Redditch Borough Council to ensure that arrangements are in place to support the financial and operational management of the organisation. There are no specific concerns that have been highlighted by the External Auditors.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.4 There are no implications arising out of this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 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 – Grant Thornton Auditing Standards Report 2018/19

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Individual internal audit reports.

7. KEY

N/a

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