

Report Number: SWT 2/20

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Audit, Governance and Standards Committee – 13 January 2020

External Audit – Progress Report and Update

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Henley

Report Author: Paul Fitzgerald, Strategic Finance Advisor and S151 Officer

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The attached report provides the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee with a progress update regarding the work of the external auditors, Grant Thornton, together with information relating to emerging issues which may be relevant to the Council.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are requested to consider and note the report.

3 Risk Assessment

- 3.1 The details of any specific risks are contained within the report.

4 Background and Full details of the Report

- 4.1 The Council's external audit function is undertaken by Grant Thornton. The external auditors, as part of their work, provide regular updates to Members via the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee together with updates in relation to emerging national issues, which may be of relevance to the Council. These are detailed in the attached report.

5 Links to Corporate Strategy

- 5.1 There is no direct contribution to the Corporate Priorities.

6 Finance / Resource Implications

- 6.1 This is an update report only and there are no specific financial implications.

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 The Council has a statutory duty to produce financial statements.

Democratic Path:

- **Scrutiny / Corporate Governance or Audit Committees – Yes**
- **Cabinet/Executive – No**
- **Full Council – No**

Reporting Frequency: Twice Yearly

List of Appendices

Appendix A	GT Audit Progress Report and Sector Update
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