

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

## Corporate Governance Committee – 17 September 2018

### External Audit – Annual Audit Letter

This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Councillor John Williams

Report Author: Andy Stark, Interim Finance Manager (Deputy S151 Officer)

#### 1 Executive Summary

1.1 To summarise the key findings from the external audit work carried out in respect of the 2017/18 financial year and details the actual audit fees charged.

1.2 The Annual Audit Letter for 2017/18 confirms that:

- The Auditors have issued an unqualified opinion in respect of the accounts for 2017/18
- The Auditors were satisfied that the Council put in place proper arrangements to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources during the year ended 31 March 2018;
- The fees charged for 2017/18 were £50,629 for the statutory audit.

#### 2 Recommendations

2.1 That Members are requested to note the report.

#### 3 Risk Assessment (if appropriate)

##### Risk Matrix

Description	Likelihood	Impact	Overall
The details of any specific risks are contained in 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 an Annual Update Letter which summarises their findings and updates regarding the actual audit fees. The Annual Audit Letter is attached to this report.

#### 5 Links to Corporate Aims / Priorities

5.1 There is no direct contribution to the Corporate Priorities.

## **6 Finance / Resource Implications**

- 6.1 The Annual Audit Letter confirms that the external auditors have issued an unqualified opinion in respect of the Council's accounts for 2017/18, which means that no material errors were found and the accounts were produced to a good standard.
- 6.2 The auditors have also confirmed that they were satisfied that the Council put in place proper arrangements to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

## **7 Legal Implications**

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

## **8 Environmental Impact Implications**

- 8.1 None

## **9 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications**

- 9.1 None

## **10 Equality and Diversity Implications**

- 10.1 None

## **11 Social Value Implications**

- 11.1 None

## **12 Partnership Implications**

- 12.1 None

## **13 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

- 13.1 None

## **14 Asset Management Implication**

- 14.1 None

## **15 Consultation Implications**

- 15.1 None

### **Democratic Path:**

- **Corporate Governance Committee – Yes**
- **Executive – No**
- **Full Council – No**

**Reporting Frequency: Once only**

## Contact Officers

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