

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Corporate Governance Committee – 19 March 2019

Grant Thornton – Housing Benefit Subsidy Certification Report 2017/18

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

Report Author: Andrew Stark, Interim Financial Services Manager and Deputy s151 Officer

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report introduces the Certification Report 2017/18 which has been compiled by our external auditors, Grant Thornton, in relation to the certification of our Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim.
- 1.2 The report, which will be presented by Grant Thornton, summaries the findings from their work in relation to the above claim and return for 2017/18.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the findings of the audit report on the Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim for 2017/18.

3 Risk Assessment

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 Each year our external auditors, Grant Thornton, review the Council's arrangements in relation to grant claims and returns.
- 4.2 Their full report together with detailed recommendations and details of the cost of this work are 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 claim and return submitted by the Council (and reviewed by our external auditors)

totals £25.358m. This is clearly a significant financial matter for the Council and we must ensure that proper arrangements are in place to meet the conditions of the grant.

6.2 No qualifications were made to the claim as a result of the 2017/18 audit.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 The s151 officer has a legal requirement to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to adequately control the Council's resources.

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 Ad-hoc Quarterly

Twice-yearly **Annually**

Contact Officers

Name	Andrew Stark	Name	Sue Williamson
Direct Dial	01823 219490	Direct Dial	01823 219470
Email	a.stark@tauntondeane.gov.uk	Email	s.williamson@tauntondeane.gov.uk