Taunton Deane Borough Council

Corporate Governance Committee – 26 March 2018

External Audit – Audit Plan 2017/18

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

Report Author: Paul Carter, Assistant Director – Resources and Support

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report introduces the External Audit Plan for 2017/18. This is prepared by our external auditors, Grant Thornton, and is detailed in the appendix to this report.

1.2 The report summarises their approach to the 2017/18 audit programme, together with the auditors view on risk, materiality and value for money.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are requested to note the External Audit Plan for 2017/18 received from Grant Thornton.

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 Each year our external auditors, Grant Thornton, provide a plan, which details their approach to the audit work required in respect of the preceding financial year (2017/18). Specifically this audit work focuses on the provision of an audit opinion in relation to the accounts, value for money (VFM) and associated key risks.

4.2 The plan for 2017/18 is set out in Appendix A.

5 Links to Corporate Aims / Priorities

5.1 There are no direct implications.

6 Finance / Resource Implications

6.1 The report sets out the external auditors view on key risk areas for the Council and their approach to auditing them.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 There are no legal implications from this report.

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**

X Twice-yearly □ **Annually**

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External Audit Plan

Year ending 31 March 2018

Taunton Deane Borough Council

March 2018

Contents

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Introduction & headlines

Purpose

This document provides an overview of the planned scope and timing of the statutory audit of Taunton Deane Borough Council ('the Council') for those charged with governance.

Respective responsibilities

The National Audit Office ('the NAO') has issued a document entitled Code of Audit Practice ('the Code'). This summarises where the responsibilities of auditors begin and end and what is expected from the audited body. Our respective responsibilities are also set in the Terms of Appointment and Statement of Responsibilities issued by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA), the body responsible for appointing us as auditor of Taunton Deane Borough Council. We draw your attention to both of these documents on the PSAA website.

Scope of our audit

The scope of our audit is set in accordance with the Code and International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) (UK). We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on the:

- financial statements (including the Annual Governance Statement) that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance (the Corporate Governance committee); and
- Value for Money arrangements in place at the Council for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or the Corporate Governance Committee of your responsibilities. It is the responsibility of the Council to ensure that proper arrangements are in place for the conduct of its business, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for. We have considered how the Council is fulfilling these responsibilities.

Our audit approach is based on a thorough understanding of the Council's business and is risk based.

Significant risks	Those risks requiring specific audit consideration and procedures to address the likelihood of a material financial statement error have been identified as: • Valuation of Net Pension Liability • Valuation of Property Plant & Equipment • Revenue recognition from West Somerset Recharges • Migration of data from SAP to the E5 system We will communicate significant findings on these areas as well as any other significant matters arising from the audit to you in our Audit Findings (ISA 260) Report.
Materiality	We have determined planning materiality to be £1.648m (PY £1.529m), which equates to 2.0% of your gross expenditure for the prior year. We are obliged to report uncorrected omissions or misstatements other than those which are 'clearly trivial' to those charged with governance. Clearly trivial has been set at £82k (PY £76k).
Value for Money arrangements	Our risk assessment regarding your arrangements to secure value for money have identified the following VFM significant risks: • Medium term financial position, including the Transformation Programme and proposal for a new Council
Audit logistics	Our interim visit took place in January and February 2018 and our final visit will take place between 29th May and 11th July 2018. Our key deliverables are this Audit Plan and our Audit Findings Report. Our fee for the audit will be no less than £50,629 (PY: £50,629) for the Council.
Independence	We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we as a firm, and each covered person, confirm that we are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements

Deep business understanding

Changes to service delivery

Commercialisation

The scale of investment activity, primarily in commercial property, has increased as local authorities seek to maximise income generation. These investments are often discharged through a company, partnership or other investment vehicle. Local authorities need to ensure that their commercial activities are presented appropriately, in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice and statutory framework, such as the Capital Finance Regulations. Where borrowing to finance these activities, local authorities need to comply with CIPFA's Prudential Code. A new version was due to be published in December 2017. Although the Council has yet to engage in any alternative service delivery models, management should refer to the new requirements if considering new arrangements.

Devolution

The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 provides the legal framework for the implementation of devolution deals with combined authorities and other areas.

Locally, Taunton Deane Borough Council and West Somerset District Council have submitted a proposal to the Secretary of State to create a new single District Council to replace the existing two councils from April 2019. An announcement is expected imminently.

Changes to financial reporting requirements

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (the Regulations)

The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) is currently undertaking a review of the Regulations, which may be subject to change. The date for any proposed changes has yet to be confirmed, so it is not yet clear or whether they will apply to the 2017/18 financial statements.

Under the 2015 Regulations local authorities are required to publish their accounts along with the auditors opinion by 31 July 2018.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

DCLG has issued revised guidance on the calculation of the Item 8 Determination for 2017/18, which :

- extends transitional arrangements for reversing impairment charges and revaluation losses on dwelling assets and applies this principle to non-dwelling assets from 2017/18,
- confirms arrangements for charging depreciation to the HRA and permitting revaluation gains that reverse previous impairment and revaluation losses to be adjusted against the HRA.

Changes to the CIPFA 2017/18 Accounting Code

CIPFA have introduced other minor changes to the 2017/18 Code which confirm the going concern basis for local authorities, and updates for Leases, Service Concession arrangements and financial instruments.

Key challenges

A proposed new Council

The council, in conjunction with West Somerset District Council have submitted a proposal to the Secretary of State to form a new local council.

Both councils believe this change is essential to ensure best use is made of their limited resources so they can continue to provide effective and efficient services to their communities.

Management expect that further savings can be achieved through economies of scale arising from the creation of new joint council.

The secretary of State has at the time of this report, not yet issued a final decision

Financial pressures

Taunton Deane Borough Council's revenue support grant from central government is due to be withdrawn from 2019/20, having reduced from over £3.5m in 2012/13. The Council, as with all public sector bodies is facing increased financial pressures to provide good services to local rate payers with less funding, as well as achieving new sources of income.

The Council continues to work hard to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for sustainable resource deployment.

Our response

- We will consider your arrangements for managing and reporting your financial resources, including your progress on forming a new Council as part of our work in reaching our Value for Money conclusion.
- We will keep you informed of changes to the Regulations and any associated changes to financial reporting or public inspection requirements for 2017/18 through on-going discussions and invitations to our technical update workshops.
- As part of our opinion on your financial statements, we will consider whether your financial statements reflect the financial reporting changes in the 2017/18 CIPFA Code, revised stock valuation guidance for the HRA and the impact of impairment assessment.

Significant risks identified

Significant risks are defined by professional standards as risks that, in the judgement of the auditor, require special audit consideration because they have a higher risk of material misstatement. Such risks often relate to significant non-routine transactions and judgmental matters. In identifying risks, audit teams consider the nature of the risk, the potential magnitude of misstatement, and its likelihood.

Risk	Reason for risk identification	Key aspects of our proposed response to the risk
The revenue cycle includes fraudulent transactions – Excluding West Somerset DC recharges	Under ISA (UK) 240 there is a rebuttable presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to the improper recognition of revenue. This presumption can be rebutted if the auditor concludes that there is no risk of material misstatement due to fraud relating to revenue recognition.	Having considered the risk factors set out in ISA240 and the nature of the revenue streams at the Council, we have determined that the risk of fraud arising from revenue recognition can be rebutted, because: • there is little incentive to manipulate revenue recognition • opportunities to manipulate revenue recognition are very limited • The culture and ethical frameworks of local authorities, including Taunton Deane Borough Council, mean that all forms of fraud are seen as unacceptable Therefore we do not consider this to be a significant risk for Taunton Deane Borough Council.
The revenue cycle includes fraudulent transactions – Recharges to West Somerset DC	Under ISA (UK) 240 there is a rebuttable presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to the improper recognition of revenue. We have identified this revenue stream as a risk requiring special audit consideration.	Having considered the risk factors set out in ISA240 and the nature of this revenue stream at the Council, we have determined that the risk of fraud arising from revenue recognition cannot be rebutted in this respect because: • The basis for the amount recharged to West Somerset should bee supported by appropriate evidence • there is the possibility that recharges are incorrectly made.
Management over-ride of controls	Under ISA (UK) 240 there is a non-rebuttable presumed risk that the risk of management over-ride of controls is present in all entities. . Management over-ride of controls is a risk requiring special audit consideration.	We will: • gain an understanding of the accounting estimates, judgements applied and decisions made by management and consider their reasonableness • obtain a full listing of journal entries, identify and test unusual journal entries for appropriateness • evaluate the rationale for any changes in accounting policies or significant unusual transactions.

Significant risks identified

Risk	Reason for risk identification	Key aspects of our proposed response to the risk
Valuation of property, plant and equipment	The Council revalues its land and buildings on a rolling basis over five years, to ensure that carrying value is not materially different from fair value. This represents a significant estimate by management in the financial statements. We identified the valuation of land and buildings revaluations and impairments as a risk requiring special audit consideration. .	We will: • Review of management's processes and assumptions for the calculation of the estimate, the instructions issued to valuation experts and the scope of their work • Consideration of the competence, expertise and objectivity of any management experts used. • Discussions with the valuer about the basis on which the valuation is carried out and challenge of the key assumptions. • Review and challenge of the information used by the valuer to ensure it is robust and consistent with our understanding. • Testing of revaluations made during the year to ensure they are input correctly into the Council's asset register • Evaluation of the assumptions made by management for those assets not revalued during the year and how management has satisfied themselves that these are not materially different to current value.
Valuation of pension fund net liability	The Council's pension fund asset and liability as reflected in its balance sheet represent a significant estimate in the financial statements. We identified the valuation of the pension fund net liability as a risk requiring special audit consideration.	We will: • Identify the controls put in place by management to ensure that the pension fund liability is not materially misstated. We will also assess whether these controls were implemented as expected and whether they are sufficient to mitigate the risk of material misstatement • Evaluate the competence, expertise and objectivity of the actuary who carried out your pension fund valuation. We will gain an understanding of the basis on which the valuation is carried out • Undertake procedures to confirm the reasonableness of the actuarial assumptions made. • Check the consistency of the pension fund asset and liability and disclosures in notes to the financial statements with the actuarial report from your actuary

Significant risks identified

Risk	Reason for risk identification	Key aspects of our proposed response to the risk
New General Ledger (E5) implemented from 1 April 2017	Introduction of a new Ledger (E5) and migration of data from the old ledger (SAP). We identified a risk that the data had not been migrated correctly as requiring special audit consideration.	We will review the arrangements management have in place to manage the transfer of the SAP ledger into E5. We will utilise our computer audit colleague's expertise to provide additional assurance that the opening balances have been correctly transferred

Reasonably possible risks identified

Reasonably possible risks (RPRs) are, in the auditor's judgment, other risk areas which the auditor has identified as an area where the likelihood of material misstatement cannot be reduced to remote, without the need for gaining an understanding of the associated control environment, along with the performance of an appropriate level of substantive work. The risk of misstatement for an RPR is lower than that for a significant risk, and they are not considered to be areas that are highly judgmental, or unusual in relation to the day to day activities of the business.

Risk	Reason for risk identification	Key aspects of our proposed response to the risk
Employee remuneration	Payroll expenditure represents a significant percentage (23%) of the Council's operating expenses. As the payroll expenditure comes from a number of individual transactions and is prepared by an external agency, there is a risk that payroll expenditure in the accounts could be understated. We therefore identified completeness of payroll expenses as a risk requiring particular audit attention	We will • evaluate the Council's accounting policy for recognition of payroll expenditure for appropriateness; • gain an understanding of the Council's system for accounting for payroll expenditure and evaluate the design of the associated controls; • complete a walkthrough test to confirm the operation of the process and associated controls in line with our understanding; • we will carry out a detailed analytical review of payroll for months 1 – 9, which will include testing a sample of starters and leavers. Further work planned • complete and conclude on the analytical review carried out at the interim and investigate any unexpected variances • substantive analytical review of year end accruals

Reasonably possible risks identified (continued)

Reasonably possible risks (RPRs) are, in the auditor's judgment, other risk areas which the auditor has identified as an area where the likelihood of material misstatement cannot be reduced to remote, without the need for gaining an understanding of the associated control environment, along with the performance of an appropriate level of substantive work. The risk of misstatement for an RPR is lower than that for a significant risk, and they are not considered to be areas that are highly judgmental, or unusual in relation to the day to day activities of the business.

Risk	Reason for risk identification	Key aspects of our proposed response to the risk
Operating expenses	Non-pay expenses on other goods and services also represents a significant percentage (59%) of the Council's operating expenses. Management uses judgement to estimate accruals of un-invoiced costs. We identified completeness of non- pay expenses as a risk requiring particular audit attention:	We will • evaluate the Council's accounting policy for recognition of non-pay expenditure for appropriateness; • gain an understanding of the Council's system for accounting for non-pay expenditure and evaluate the design of the associated controls; • complete a walkthrough test to confirm the operation of the process and associated controls in line with our understanding; Further work planned • reconciliation of creditor ledger to the general ledger; • testing for unrecorded liabilities: • substantive analytical review of year end accruals

Other matters

Other work

In addition to our responsibilities under the Code of Practice, we have a number of other audit responsibilities, as follows:

- We carry out work to satisfy ourselves that disclosures made in your Annual Governance Statement are in line with the guidance issued and consistent with our knowledge of the Council.
- We will read your Narrative Statement and check that it is consistent with the financial statements on which we give an opinion and that the disclosures included in it are in line with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice.
- We carry out work on your consolidation schedules for the Whole of Government Accounts process in accordance with NAO group audit instructions.
- We consider our other duties under the Act and the Code, as and when required, including:
    - giving electors the opportunity to raise questions about your 2017/18 financial statements, consider and decide upon any objections received in relation to the 2017/18 financial statements;
    - issue of a report in the public interest; and
    - making a written recommendation to the Council, copied to the Secretary of State.
- We certify completion of our audit.

Other material balances and transactions

Under International Standards on Auditing, "irrespective of the assessed risks of material misstatement, the auditor shall design and perform substantive procedures for each material class of transactions, account balance and disclosure". All other material balances and transaction streams will therefore be audited. However, the procedures will not be as extensive as the procedures adopted for the risks identified in this report.

Going concern

As auditors, we are required to “obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern assumption in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and to conclude whether there is a material uncertainty about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern” (ISA (UK) 570). We will review management's assessment of the going concern assumption and evaluate the disclosures in the financial statements.

Materiality

The concept of materiality

The concept of materiality is fundamental to the preparation of the financial statements and the audit process and applies not only to the monetary misstatements but also to disclosure requirements and adherence to acceptable accounting practice and applicable law. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered to be material if they, individually or in the aggregate, could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

Materiality for planning purposes

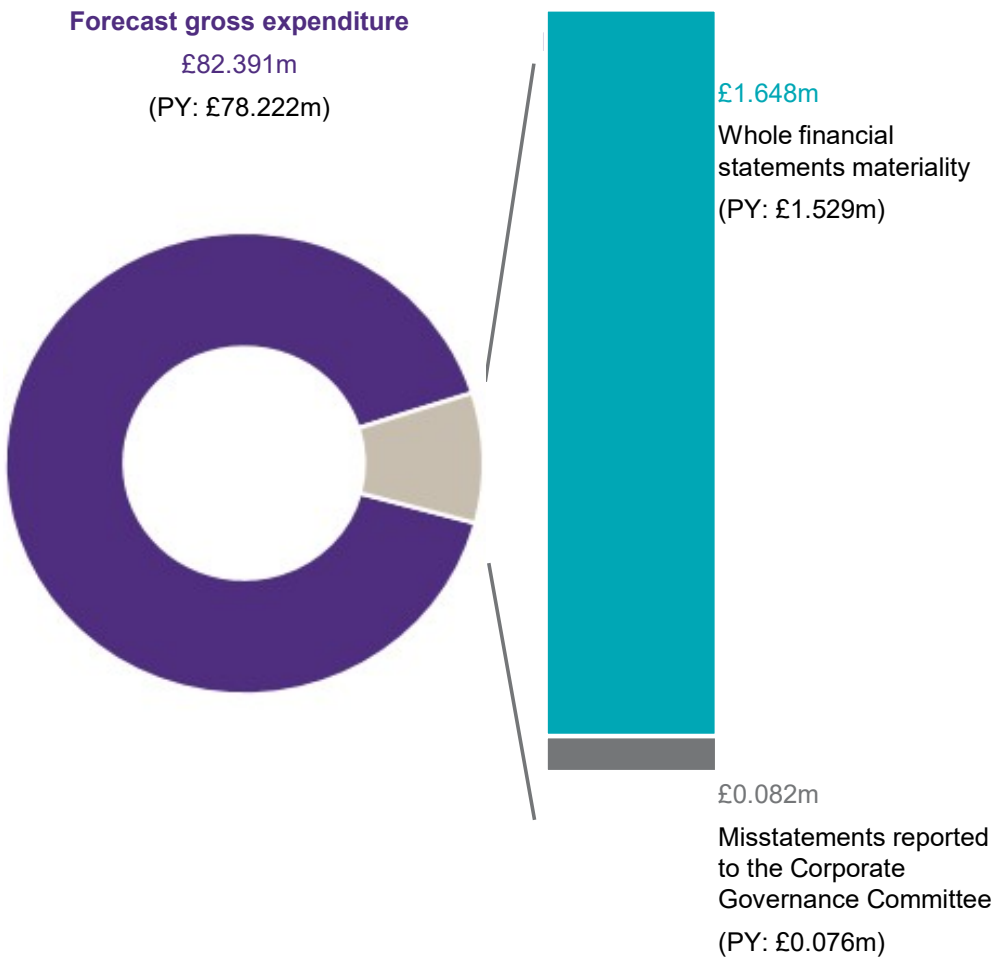
We propose to calculate financial statement materiality based on a proportion of the gross expenditure of the Council for the financial year. In the prior year we used the same benchmark. We have determined planning materiality (the financial statements materiality determined at the planning stage of the audit) to be £1.648m (PY £1.529m), which equates to 2% of your prior year gross expenditure for the year. We design our procedures to detect errors in specific accounts at a lower level of precision.

We reconsider planning materiality if, during the course of our audit engagement, we become aware of facts and circumstances that would have caused us to make a different determination of planning materiality

Matters we will report to the Audit Committee

Whilst our audit procedures are designed to identify misstatements which are material to our opinion on the financial statements as a whole, we nevertheless report to the Corporate Governance Committee any unadjusted misstatements of lesser amounts to the extent that these are identified by our audit work. Under ISA 260 (UK) 'Communication with those charged with governance', we are obliged to report uncorrected omissions or misstatements other than those which are 'clearly trivial' to those charged with governance. ISA 260 (UK) defines 'clearly trivial' as matters that are clearly inconsequential, whether taken individually or in aggregate and whether judged by any quantitative or qualitative criteria. In the context of the Council, we propose that an individual difference could normally be considered to be clearly trivial if it is less than £82k (PY £76k).

If management have corrected material misstatements identified during the course of the audit, we will consider whether those corrections should be communicated to the Corporate Governance Committee to assist it in fulfilling its governance responsibilities.



Value for Money arrangements

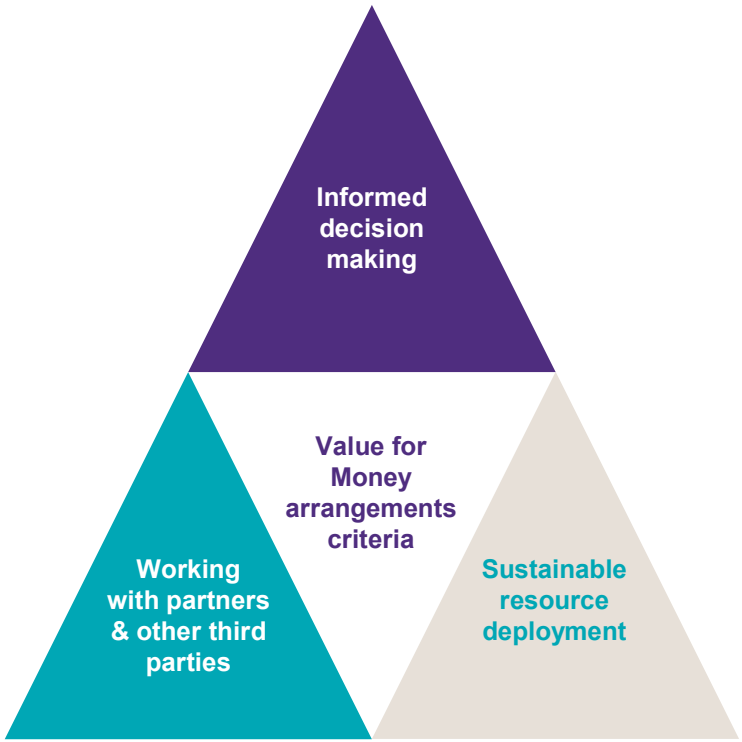
Background to our VFM approach

The NAO issued its guidance for auditors on Value for Money work for 2017/18 in November 2017. The guidance states that for local government bodies, auditors are required to give a conclusion on whether the Council has proper arrangements in place.

The guidance identifies one single criterion for auditors to evaluate:

"In all significant respects, the audited body takes properly informed decisions and deploys resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people."

This is supported by three sub-criteria, as set out below:



Significant VFM risks

Those risks requiring specific audit consideration and procedures to address the likelihood that proper arrangements are not in place at the Council to deliver value for money.

Medium term financial position, including the Transformation Programme and proposal for a new Council

The Council has a balanced financial plan for 2018/19 and an indicative budget surplus for 2019/20. However there is a forecast budget gap by 2022/23 of £0.170m. The forecast budget gap for 2022/23 would increase by circa £1.5m if the savings which are expected to be delivered via the transformation Programme are not achieved over the next 5 years.

In order to achieve financial savings and efficiencies, the Council has a detailed a significant Transformation Programme, which would culminate in the creation of a new Council with West Somerset District Council. The two Councils have submitted a proposal to the Secretary of State to allow the creation of a new Council, with a decision expected imminently. If approved, it is expected that the new Council would operate from April 2019.

We will review the Council's medium term financial plan, including the assumptions that underpin the plan. We will review how the Council is progressing with its Transformation Programme, with a particular emphasis on the transformation of services, as well as reviewing the progress on the proposal to create a new Council.

Audit logistics, team & audit fees

Peter Barber Engagement Lead

Overall quality control; accounts opinions; final authorisation of reports; attendance at Corporate Governance Committee

Sarah Crouch Audit Manager

Overall audit management; consideration of VFM work; quality assurance of audit work and outputs

Stephen Clarke Audit Incharge

Management of audit fieldwork, including accounts; coordination of work completed by audit assistants; coordination of work of specialists and advisors

Audit fees

The planned audit fees are no less than £50,629 (PY: £50.629) for the financial statements audit and no less than £9,419 (PY: £7,793) for housing benefit certification. Our fees for grant certification cover only housing benefit subsidy certification, which falls under the remit of Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited Fees in respect of other grant work, such as reasonable assurance reports, are shown under 'Fees for other services'.

In setting your fee, we have assumed that the scope of the audit, and the Council and its activities, do not significantly change.

Our requirements

To ensure the audit is delivered on time and to avoid any additional fees, we have detailed our expectations and requirements in the following section ‘Early Close’. If the requirements detailed overleaf are not met, we reserve the right to postpone our audit visit and charge fees to reimburse us for any additional costs incurred.

Early close

Meeting the early close timeframe

Bringing forward the statutory date for publication of audited local government accounts to 31 July this year, across the whole sector, is a significant challenge for local authorities and auditors alike. For authorities, the time available to prepare the accounts is curtailed, while, as auditors we have a shorter period to complete our work and face an even more significant peak in our workload than previously.

We have carefully planned how we can make the best use of the resources available to us during the final accounts period. As well as increasing the overall level of resources available to deliver audits, we have focused on:

- bringing forward as much work as possible to interim audits
- starting work on final accounts audits as early as possible, by agreeing which authorities will have accounts prepared significantly before the end of May
- seeking further efficiencies in the way we carry out our audits
- working with you to agree detailed plans to make the audits run smoothly, including early agreement of audit dates, working paper and data requirements and early discussions on potentially contentious items.

We are satisfied that, if all these plans are implemented, we will be able to complete your audit and those of our other local government clients in sufficient time to meet the earlier deadline. Last year the Council presented the draft statements for audit by June enabling us to sign off against this earlier deadline. Both the Council and us, as your auditors, are, therefore, well placed to meet the requirements under the regulations.

Client responsibilities

Where individual clients do not deliver to the timetable agreed, we need to ensure that this does not impact on audit quality or absorb a disproportionate amount of time, thereby disadvantaging other clients. We will therefore conduct audits in line with the timetable set out in audit plans (as detailed on page 13). Where the elapsed time to complete an audit exceeds that agreed due to a client not meetings its obligations we will not be able to maintain a team on site. Similarly, where additional resources are needed to complete the audit due to a client not meeting their obligations we are not able to guarantee the delivery of the audit by the statutory deadline.

Such audits are unlikely to be re-started until very close to, or after the statutory deadline. In addition, it is highly likely that these audits will incur additional audit fees.

Our requirements

To minimise the risk of a delayed audit or additional audit fees being incurred, you need to ensure that you:

- produce draft financial statements of good quality by the deadline you have agreed with us, including all notes, the narrative report and the Annual Governance Statement
- ensure that good quality working papers are available at the start of the audit, in accordance with the working paper requirements schedule that we have shared with you
- ensure that the agreed data reports are available to us at the start of the audit and are reconciled to the values in the accounts, in order to facilitate our selection of samples
- ensure that all appropriate staff are available on site throughout (or as otherwise agreed) the planned period of the audit
- respond promptly and adequately to audit queries.

In return, we will ensure that:

- the audit runs smoothly with the minimum disruption to your staff
- you are kept informed of progress through the use of an issues tracker and weekly meetings during the audit
- we are available to discuss issues with you prior to and during your preparation of the financial statements.

Independence & non-audit services

Auditor independence

Ethical Standards and ISA (UK) 260 require us to give you timely disclosure of all significant facts and matters that may bear upon the integrity, objectivity and independence of the firm or covered persons. relating to our independence. We encourage you to contact us to discuss these or any other independence issues with us. We will also discuss with you if we make additional significant judgements surrounding independence matters.

We confirm that there are no significant facts or matters that impact on our independence as auditors that we are required or wish to draw to your attention. We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we as a firm, and each covered person, confirm that we are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements. Further, we have complied with the requirements of the National Audit Office's Auditor Guidance Note 01 issued in December 2016 which sets out supplementary guidance on ethical requirements for auditors of local public bodies

We confirm that we have implemented policies and procedures to meet the requirements of the Ethical Standard. For the purposes of our audit we have made enquiries of all Grant Thornton UK LLP teams providing services to the Council.

Non-audit services

The following non-audit services were identified

Service	Fees £	Threats	Safeguards
Audit related			
Certification of Housing capital receipts grant	2,000	Self-Interest (because this is a recurring fee)	The level of this recurring fee taken on its own is not considered a significant threat to independence as the fee for this work is £2,000 in comparison to the total fee for the audit of £50,629 and in particular relative to Grant Thornton UK LLP's turnover overall. Further, it is a fixed fee and there is no contingent element to it. These factors mitigate the perceived self-interest threat to an acceptable level.

The amounts detailed are fees agreed to-date for audit related services to be undertaken by Grant Thornton UK LLP in the current financial year. Any changes and full details of all fees charged for audit related and non-audit related services by Grant Thornton UK LLP and by Grant Thornton International Limited network member Firms will be included in our Audit Findings report at the conclusion of the audit.

None of the services provided are subject to contingent fees.

Appendices

A. Revised ISAs

Appendix A: Revised ISAs

Detailed below is a summary of the key changes impacting the auditor's report for audits of financial statement for periods commencing on or after 17 June 2016.

Section of the auditor's report	Description of the requirements
Conclusions relating to going concern	We will be required to conclude and report whether: • The directors use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate • The directors have disclosed identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Council's ability to continue as a going concern.
Material uncertainty related to going concern.	We will need to include a brief description of the events or conditions identified that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern when a material uncertainty has been identified and adequately disclosed in the financial statements. Going concern material uncertainties are no longer reported in an Emphasis of Matter section in our audit report.
Other information	We will be required to include a section on other information which includes: • Responsibilities of management and auditors regarding other information • A statement that the opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information unless required by law or regulation • Reporting inconsistencies or misstatements where identified
Additional responsibilities for directors and the auditor	We will be required to include the respective responsibilities for directors and us, as auditors, regarding going concern.
Format of the report	The opinion section appears first followed by the basis of opinion section.