

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Audit, Governance and Standards Committee – 7 September 2020

External Audit – Progress Report and Sector Update

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Henley

Report Author: Emily Collacott, Finance Business Partner and Deputy S151 Officer

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The attached report provides the Committee with a progress update regarding the work of the external auditors, Grant Thornton, to review the 2019/20 financial accounts and the Council's arrangements to deliver value for money, together with information relating to emerging issues which may be relevant to the Council.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to consider and note the report

3 Background and Full details of the Report

- 3.1 Grant Thornton LLP is the appointed external auditor for the Council.
- 3.2 The report provided by Grant Thornton gives a progress update on the work undertaken since their last report to Committee, and highlights (if) any significant matters to be brought to the Committee's attention. The report also includes updates in relation to emerging national issues, which may be of relevance to the Council.

4 Finance / Resource Implications

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

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 sets the requirement for local authority accounts to be audited. The service provided by Grant Thornton meets this requirement.

Democratic Path:

- **Audit Governance and Standards Committee– Yes**
- **Executive – No**
- **Full Council – No**

Reporting Frequency: Ad-hoc**List of Appendices:**

Grant Thornton's progress report is appended to this brief cover.

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