

Report of	Meeting	Date
Head of Audit and Risk	Governance Committee	Wednesday, 2 August 2023

Chair of Governance Committee Response to External Audit Planning Enquiries

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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Purpose of the Report

- To present to members of the Committee, the Chair of the Governance Committee responses provided to the planning enquiries made by the External Auditors, Grant Thornton as part of the 2022/23 statutory accounts.

Recommendations

- The Governance Committee is asked to consider and approve the responses to the auditors enquiries attached.

Other options considered and rejected

- Not applicable.

Corporate priorities

- The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Housing where residents can live well	A green and sustainable borough
An enterprising economy with vibrant local centres in urban and rural areas	Healthy, safe and engaged communities

Background to the report

- In line with Auditing Standards and to support the Audit Planning process, the External Auditor needs to establish the risk of fraud or error.
- The questions and responses provided by the Chair of the Governance Committee are attached at Appendix A.

Climate change and air quality

7. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

Equality and diversity

5. Not applicable.

Risk

6. The risks identified to the External Auditors, in response to the planning enquiries are detailed in the appendix to the report.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

7. As part of their responsibilities in conducting the audit of the statutory accounts, the External Auditors are required to seek responses, and request information, on all aspects of the Council's activities as they feel are necessary. The information requested as part of their planning enquiries, is in line with this.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

8. It is part of the normal processes relating to the audit of the accounts that External Auditors seek responses from the council on key questions/enquiries. There are no concerns or issues from a Monitoring Officer perspective with this report.

Background documents

There are no background papers to this report

Appendices

Appendix A - Responses from Governance Committee Chair

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
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