

DECISION ITEM

| REPORT OF | MEETING | DATE | ITEM NO | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------|--|--|
| RESOURCES DIRECTORATE | AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE | 16 NOVEMBER 2017 | 4 | | |
| ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2016/17 | | | | | |

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

The Committee is requested to consider the contents of the Annual Audit Letter issued by the Council's external auditors, KPMG for the financial year 2016/17. The Audit Letter details the auditor's opinion on the Council's performance and financial management. The opinion of KPMG is also provided on the Council's preparation of its financial statements. The report will be presented by KPMG.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to note the content of the Annual Audit Letter and provide comments as appropriate.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The Committee is asked to note the content of the Annual Audit Letter and provide comments as appropriate.

| CORPORATE PRIORITIES | | |
|---|---|--|
| Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money) | ٧ | |
| Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green) | | |
| Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy) | | |
| To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live) | | |
| Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit) | | |

REPORT

- 1.1 The Audit letter is produced each year by the Council's external auditors upon conclusion of the audit in respect of the prior financial year. The judgements contained within the Audit Letter are based upon inspection activity which has been undertaken as part of the audit.
- 1.2 Commentary is provided within the letter about the external auditor's opinion on the Council's financial statements and arrangements for securing value for money. In arriving at their conclusions, the auditors considered financial governance, financial planning and control processes, and how the Council is prioritising resources and seeking to improve efficiency and productivity.
- 1.3 A copy of the Annual Audit Letter for 2016/17 is attached.

CONCLUSION

1.4 The Audit and Standards Committee is asked to note the content of the Annual Audit Letter and are invited to make any comments as appropriate.

| IMPLICATIONS | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Finance | Implications are detailed within the body of the Audit Letter. | | |
| Legal | The legal implications are contained within the body of this report and the report of the Council's external auditors, KPMG. | | |
| Community Safety | None arising from this report | | |
| Human Rights and Equalities | None arising from this report | | |
| Sustainability and Environmental Impact | None arising from this report | | |
| Health & Safety and Risk Management | None arising from this report | | |

| LEAD AUTHOR | CONTACT DETAILS | DATE | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Paul O'Donoghue Chief Financial Officer | 01253 658566 | November 2017 | |

| BACKGROUND PAPERS | | | |
|-------------------|------|--------------------------------|--|
| Name of document | Date | Where available for inspection | |
| None | | | |

Attached documents Appendix 1 – KPMG Annual Audit Letter 2016/17