



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 23 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

EXTERNAL AUDIT OF THE 2015/16 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Purpose of Report

1. To report the key findings from the external audit of the 2015/16 financial statements and approve the draft letter of representation.

Background

2. KPMG, the County Council's external auditor, are required to communicate the results of the 2015/16 audit of the Council's financial statements to those charged with governance prior to certifying the statement of accounts. The draft 2015/16 Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement (AGS) can be viewed on the Council's website via the following link:-

<http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/about-the-council/council-spending/accounts-and-payments#accounts>

3. A copy of the auditor's report is attached as Appendix A to this report. The auditor anticipates issuing an unqualified audit opinion.
4. There is a slight change this year in that KPMG require those charged with governance to submit a letter of representation in addition to that normally provided by the Chief Financial Officer. A draft copy of the letter of representation is attached as Appendix B to this report for member consideration.
5. John Cornett, the KPMG manager responsible for the County Council audit will attend the Committee meeting on 23 September to communicate any significant findings and answer any questions.

Recommendation

6. The Committee is asked to consider the issues raised in the auditor's report and approve the draft letter of representation.

Equal Opportunities Implications

7. None.

Circulation Under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

8. None.

Background Papers

None.

Officers to Contact

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Appendices

Appendix A - External Auditors report
Appendix B – Draft Letter of Representation