



ESPO MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 19 SEPTEMBER 2019

EXTERNAL AUDIT OF THE 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR

**JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR AND CONSORTIUM
SECRETARY**

Purpose of Report

1. To report the key findings from the external audit of the 2018/19 financial statements and to present the letter of representation from the Consortium Treasurer to the auditors.

Background

2. PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the external auditors, are required to communicate the results of the 2018/19 audit of ESPO's financial statements to those charged with governance prior to certifying the statement of accounts.
3. A copy of the auditor's report and the draft letter of representation from the Consortium Treasurer is attached as Appendix 1 to this report
4. As set out in the report, PwC propose to certify the financial statements with an unqualified opinion.
5. The PwC Auditor responsible for the audit will attend the Committee meeting on the 19 September to communicate any significant findings and answer any questions.
6. The auditors report is circulated to the Management Committee with the status of a "draft" and subject to approval at this meeting will be published as a final report.
7. The Statement of Accounts is presented to the September Committee meeting for approval elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

Recommendation

8. The Committee is asked to consider and approve the external audit of the financial statements 2018/19..

Equality and Human Rights Implications

9. None.

Background Papers

10. None.

Officers to Contact

Mr C Tambini –Consortium Treasurer (Tel: 0116 305 7831)

Mr K Smith – Director of ESPO (Tel: 0116 265 7930)

Appendices.

Appendix 1 - Report to those charged with governance on the audit for the year ended 31 March 2019 (ISA 260 (UK&I)) and Annual Audit Letter – 2018/19