

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 23 SEPTEMBER 2013****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES****EXTERNAL AUDIT OF THE 2012/13 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT****Purpose of Report**

1. To report the key findings from the external audit of the 2012/13 financial statements.

Background

2. PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the County Council's external auditor, are required to communicate the results of the 2012/13 audit of the Council's financial statements to those charged with governance prior to certifying the statement of accounts. The draft 2012/13 Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement (AGS) can be viewed on the Council's website via the following link:-

http://www.leics.gov.uk/index/your_council/budget/statement_of_accounts.htm

3. A copy of the auditor's report and the draft letter of representation are attached as an Appendix to this report. The auditor anticipates issuing an unqualified audit opinion.
4. Richard Bacon, the PwC audit partner, responsible for the County Council audit will attend the Committee meeting on 23 September to communicate any significant findings and answer any questions.

Recommendation

5. The Committee is asked to consider the issues raised in the auditor's report.

Equal Opportunities Implications

6. None.

Circulation Under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

7. None.

Background Papers

None.

Officers to Contact

Brian Roberts, Director of Corporate Resources

Tel: 0116 305 7830 E-mail: Brian.Roberts@leics.gov.uk

Chris Tambini, Head of Strategic Finance

Tel: 0116 305 7642 E-mail: Chris.Tambini@leics.gov.uk

Judith Spence, Head of Corporate Finance

Tel: 0116 305 5998 E-mail: Judith.Spence@leics.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix - External Auditors report and draft letter of representation.