

Cherwell District Council

Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee

31 July 2019

External Audit – Annual Audit Opinion 2018/19

Report of the Executive Director: Finance (Interim)

This report is public

Purpose of report

To receive a report setting out the External Audit Opinion for 2018/19.

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 to note the contents of the External Audit Opinion (ISA260) for 2018/19 from our External Auditors, Ernst & Young (EY).

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 Attached at Appendix 1 (to follow) is the External Audit Opinion 2018/19 which outlines the work undertaken to audit the Statement of Accounts and the overall opinion for 2018/19.

3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 External Audit undertakes its work in line with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the National Audit Office's 2015 Code of Audit Practice, the Statement of Responsibilities issued by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd and auditing standards.
- 3.2 The Audit Opinion (ISA260) sets out the methodology, approach and timescales that EY have taken in relation to undertaking the work required for the audit of the Statement of Accounts 2018/19.
- 3.3 The Audit Opinion sets out the overall assessment of the Statement of Accounts produced. The Statement of Accounts for 2018/19 has been prepared in line with the earlier timescales as required and represents significant improvements for the Council in preparing these accounts.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

4.1 The opinion sets out the assessment of External Audit for 2018/19.

5.0 Consultation

None

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: The committee may seek additional information from the external auditors (EY) and officers.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

Dominic Oakeshott, Assistant Director, Finance (Interim), 01295 227943
dominic.oakeshott@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Legal Implications

7.2 There are no legal implication arising from this report.

Comments checked by:

Richard Hawtin, Team Leader – Non-contentious, 01295 221695
richard.hawtin@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Risk Management Implications

7.3 There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

Comments checked by: Louise Tustian

Louise Tustian, Team Leader - Insight Team 01295 221786
louise.tustian@Cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

8.0 Decision Information

Wards Affected

All wards are affected

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

All corporate plan themes.

Lead Councillor

None

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	External Audit Opinion (ISA260) 2018/19 (to follow)
Background Papers	
None	
Report Author	Dominic Oakeshott, Assistant Director, Finance (Interim)
Contact Information	dominic.oakeshott@cherwell-dc.gov.uk 01295 227943