



Committee and Date

West Mercia Energy Joint
Committee

29th February 2016

Item

8

Public

EXTERNAL AUDIT - ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2014/15

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1. Summary

- 1.1 Grant Thornton, the Joint Committee's external auditors, presented their audit findings to the Joint Committee in September and this paper enables them to present their final audit letter for the year ended 31st March 2015.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Joint Committee are asked to consider and endorse, with appropriate comment, the contents of the report presented by Grant Thornton.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 3.2 There are no direct environmental, equalities or climate change consequences arising from this report.
- 3.3 Grant Thornton's audit work was conducted in accordance with the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice, International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and other guidance issued by the Audit Commission and Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5. Background

5.1 At the Joint Committee of 28 September 2015, Grant Thornton presented their findings from the audit work they had conducted on the WME accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015. Shortly after the meeting Grant Thornton issued their unqualified audit opinion for this set of accounts.

5.2 The key messages from the attached audit letter are:

- No issues were identified in respect of the risks that were identified in the audit plan.
- No issues were identified from a review of the accounting policies, estimates and key judgements.
- Unqualified opinion of the WME financial statements 2014/15.
- Unqualified value for money conclusion for 2014/15.

<p>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</p>
<p>Joint Committee 28 September 2015 – Audit Findings for West Mercia Energy Joint Committee (Year ended 31 March 2015)</p>
<p>Joint Committee 16 February 2015 – Audit Plan for West Mercia Energy Joint Committee (Year ended 31 March 2015)</p>
<p>Member Councillor P Price of Herefordshire Council (vice-chair of the Joint Committee)</p>
<p>Appendices The Annual Audit Letter for West Mercia Energy Joint Committee (Year ended 31 March 2015)</p>