



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Audit Committee 25 February 2020

<u>Item</u>

<u>Public</u>

EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

Responsible Officer James Walton

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides the Audit Committee with the proposed external audit plan for 2019/20 for consideration and approval.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Audit Committee:
- A. Approve the draft audit plan for 2019/20 as presented by Grant Thornton attached at Appendix 1.
 - B. Approve the commissioning of Grant Thornton to undertake the audit in accordance with the audit plan.

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 or equalities consequences arising from this report.
- 3.3 Grant Thornton's audit work is conducted in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) (UK).

4. Climate Change Appraisal

- 4.1 There are no direct climate change consequences arising from this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The quoted audit fee for 2019/20 is £125,561, an increase of £11,500 on the £115,061 in 2018/19. Details of the fee variation for 2019/20 is detailed within the External Audit Plan and page 15 provides details of the rationale for these additional charges.

Background

- 5.1 The scope of the audit to be undertaken is set out in Grant Thornton's proposal and the 'significant risks' identified for special audit consideration are identified on pages 6 to 8.
- 5.2 Grant Thornton will conduct their main audit work on Shropshire Council's accounts for 2019/20 at a time to be agreed during the summer and is intending to present the Audit Findings Report to the July Audit Committee and the External Audit Letter to the September Audit Committee.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) All
Local Member All
Appendices Appendix 1 – External Audit Plan - Year ended 31 March 2020