

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee
Meeting to be held on Monday, 20 May 2019

Electoral Division affected: None

External Audit - Fee Letter for Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund 2019/20

Appendix 'A' refers

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

This report sets out details of the planned fees for the audit work to be undertaken by Grant Thornton in respect of Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund for 2019/20.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to approve the fees for 2019/20 is set out in Appendix A.

Background and Advice

Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) has been specified as an appointing person under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Local Authority (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015 and has the power to make auditor appointments for audits of opted-in local government bodies from 2018/19.

For opted-in bodies PSAA's responsibilities include setting fees, appointing auditors and monitoring the quality of auditors' work.

PSAA published the 2019/20 scale fees for opted-in bodies in March 2019. Individual scale fees have remained at the 2018/19 levels for both the Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund audit.

The Council's scale fee for 2019/20 has been set by PSAA at £87,006.

PSAA prescribes that 'scale fees are based on the expectation that audited bodies are able to provide the auditor with complete and materially accurate financial statements, with supporting working papers, within agreed timeframes'.

The audit planning process for 2019/20, including the risk assessment, will continue as the year progresses and fees will be reviewed and updated as necessary as work progresses.

PSAA has also established a scale of fees for pension fund audits for 2019/20. The scale fee for the audit of the pension fund is £26,310.

Robin Baker, Engagement Lead, will attend the meeting to present the report at Appendix 'A' and respond to questions.

Consultations

The report has been agreed with the Chief Executive and Director of Resources.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

No significant risks have been identified.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A