

## **Audit, Risk and Governance Committee**

Meeting to be held on Monday 27 July, 2020

Report submitted by: Grant Thornton, External Auditors for Lancashire County Council

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);
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### **External Audit – Lancashire County Council Audit Plan 2019/20**

Appendix A refers

Contact for further information:

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#### **Executive Summary**

Appendix A to this report sets out the Lancashire County Council Audit Plan provided by the council's external auditors, Grant Thornton, for the year ending 31 March 2020.

The auditors are required to perform the audit in line with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and in accordance with the Code of Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

#### **Recommendation**

That the Lancashire County Council audit plan for 2019/20, as presented be noted and any issues, clarifications and questions be raised with the external auditor.

#### **Background and Advice**

External Audit provides assurance as to the effectiveness of the council's accounting and financial management arrangements and through these supports the council in its work to deliver its priorities and objectives. The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee has a key role to ensure control and risk management arrangements are effective and this report is made consistent with that responsibility. The Lancashire County Council Audit Plan sets out a number of areas for the committee's consideration, including the approach to the audit, the concept of materiality, risks, value for money and key dates.

#### **Consultations**

The reports have been discussed with finance officers of the council.

**Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

**Risk management**

External audit is a statutory function required by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The Pension Fund audit plan and reporting must be considered by those charged with governance. At Lancashire County Council, this function is discharged by the Audit, Risk and Governance committee. The audited accounts are required by to be published by 30 November 2020.

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

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
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