

Annual Audit Letter

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Purpose of the report

This report introduces the annual audit letter for the 2015/16 financial year.

Recommendation

The Audit Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the contents of the Annual Audit Letter as set out in the report.

Introduction

The review of the Annual Audit Letter is included within the remit of the Audit Committee under its terms of reference as follows:

“To consider the reports of external audit including the Annual Audit Letter and seek assurance from management that action has been taken.”

“To review and approve the annual Statement of Accounts, external auditor’s opinion and reports to members and monitor management action in response to issues raised.”

Each year the external auditor is required to make arrangements for the production of an audit letter for each local authority.

Statement of Accounts

An unqualified opinion was given on the Statement of Accounts.

The Value for Money Conclusion

An unqualified conclusion was given on the Council’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

Objection to the Accounts

One of the two objections to the 2013/14 accounts has not yet been finalised. The objection regarding the renegotiation of S106’s was not upheld and the remaining objection regarding a planning matter can now be assessed as the Judicial Review has been concluded. A report regarding the objections will be made to the Audit Committee once the overall outcome is fully known.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications in accepting this report and the associated recommendations.

Background Papers

SSDC Audit Findings Report
