

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CERTIFICATION OF GRANT CLAIMS</b>
<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERK</b>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>JOHN SCOTT, AUDIT MANAGER</b>

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To receive and comment upon the External Audit Grant and Returns report for 2016/17.

## **2. Executive Summary**

- 2.1 External Audit are required to report annually the results of the grant certification work. The attached report is largely factual and similar in format to that submitted in previous years.

## **3. Report Summary**

- 3.1 Adjustments were necessary to the Council's housing benefit claim, these reduced the overall amount of subsidy due to the Council by £1129. The claim, as in previous years, was subject to a qualification letter. The claim had a value of £33.4 million. There were some adjustments to the Housing Pooling return but an unqualified assurance report for this return was issued.
- 3.2 The proposed fee for certifying the Council's 2016/17 Housing Benefit Subsidy grant is £10,173 (£10,570 2015/16). This fee is still subject to approval by the PSAA.

The fee for the Housing Pooling Return work was agreed directly with the Council and was £3,000 (£3,000 2015/16).

## **4. Organisational Impacts**

- 4.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

Financial implications are set out in Para 3.1 and 3.2 above.

- 4.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no direct legal implications.

## **5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Audit Committee should note and comment on the attached audit reports.

**Is this a key decision?** No

**Do the exempt information categories apply?** No

**Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply?** No

**How many appendices does the report contain?** One

**List of Background Papers:** None

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