

In accordance with Paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair has agreed that the following item can be considered at this meeting.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

7 FEBRUARY 2019

SUBJECT:	EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2019/20
DIRECTORATE:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERK
REPORT AUTHOR:	CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The attached External Audit progress report provides the Audit Committee with an update on progress in delivering their responsibilities

2. Background

- 2.1 External Audit (Mazars) are in the process of finalising the Audit Strategy Memorandum and completing walkthroughs at the time of writing this report; if there are any issues arising to report to this Committee, we will include these in our next audit progress report.

3. Progress

- 3.1 The Mazars progress report is attached and provides a summary of timescales on key areas of work.
- 3.2 As the Strategy includes public interest entity (PIE), it needs further review. This is scheduled for mid-February 2019 so the Audit Strategy will be submitted to the March Audit Committee meeting.
- 3.3 In terms of the grants audit report (including housing benefit subsidy), this is currently being finalised by KPMG and again will be submitted in March 2019

4. Organisational Impacts

- 4.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

There are no direct financial implications.

- 4.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no direct legal implication arising from this report.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 Audit Committee should note the contents of this report and the attached Appendix.

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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