

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

29 JULY 2019

STATUTORY ACCOUNTS AND PENSION FUND 2018/19 – EXTERNAL AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT

Recommendation

- 1. The Chief Financial Officer recommends that members consider their response to the Grant Thornton Audit Findings Report for the Worcestershire County Council Statutory Accounts 2018/19 and Worcestershire County Council Pension Fund Accounts 2018/19.**

Background

2. This report has been prepared by the Council's external auditor, Grant Thornton, and summarises the conclusions and key issues arising from the recent audit of the Council's financial statements and their assessment of the Council's arrangements to secure value for money in its use of resources. It also summarises the conclusions and key issues arising from the recent audit of the Pension Fund's financial statements.

Key issues arising - Worcestershire County Council Statutory Accounts 2018/19

3. The key issues are given in the draft of the Grant Thornton report and are summarised below:
 - Grant Thornton anticipates issuing an unqualified audit opinion, subject to outstanding queries being resolved
 - Grant Thornton identified a number of misclassification and disclosure changes. All material changes have been adjusted. There remain a small number of non-material changes which have not been adjusted in the accounts and these are recommended by Grant Thornton as future improvements which are accepted.

Key issues arising - Worcestershire County Council Pension Fund Accounts 2018/19

4. The key issues are given in the draft of the Grant Thornton report and are summarised below:

- Grant Thornton anticipates issuing an unqualified audit opinion, subject to outstanding queries being resolved
- Grant Thornton have identified a small number of presentation and disclosure changes and they have all been adjusted.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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Supporting Information

- Appendix 1: Grant Thornton Audit Findings Worcestershire County Council
- Appendix 2: Grant Thornton Audit Findings Worcestershire County Council Pension Fund

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Chief Financial Officer) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.