

Corporate Affairs and Audit Committee

Report title	Annual Audit Letter for the year ended 31 March 2018
Chief Executive or Director	Strategic Director of Finance, Governance and Support
Date	6 December 2018
Purpose of the report	To report the external auditor's findings for year ended 31 March 2018
Summary of the report	This report confirms the annual audit opinion which is unqualified both for the core financial statements and for the value for money opinion.
If this is a confidential report, which exemption(s) from the Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 applies?	N/A
Decision(s) asked for	To note the report
Impact of decision(s)	The audit for 2017-18 will be concluded.

What is the purpose of this report?

1. This report confirms the annual audit opinion which is unqualified both for the core financial statements and for the value for money opinion; and it covers findings from the audit.

Why is this report necessary?

2. Auditors are required to prepare an annual audit letter for the attention of management and the Corporate Affairs and Audit Committee. The content of this report has been considered previously by the Committee in particular at its meeting on 26 September, however this report concludes the formal annual cycle of reporting.

What decision(s) are being asked for?

3. To note the report.

Why is this being recommended?

4. This will conclude the annual reporting cycle.

Background

5. Members will recall the report produced by EY for the 26 September meeting. This current report is for information and there is nothing significant new to note.

Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended

6. It is right that the Committee has an opportunity to note and consider communications such as this from the external auditors.

Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)

7. The annual audit reporting cycle will be complete.

Legal

8. Not applicable.

Financial

9. As noted in the report, EY are asking for an increase in their audit fee of £26k in this year and this is currently being considered by officers.

The Mayor's Vision for Middlesbrough

10. Open and transparent reporting of the auditors' findings supports all of the elements of the Mayor's Vision.

Policy Framework

11. The report does not impact on the overall budget and policy framework.

Wards

12. The report impacts on all wards equally.

Equality and Diversity

13. Not applicable

Risk

14. Not applicable

Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)

15. The report will be filed and reported to the Public Sector Audit Appointments body.