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| Audit Committee | Wednesday, 23 November 2022 | Matter for Information |
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Report Title: **Draft Auditors Annual Report 2020/21 and 2021/22**

Report Author(s): **Tracy Bingham (Strategic Director / Section 151 Officer)**

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| Purpose of Report: | For the Audit Committee to receive the external auditors Draft Annual Report for 2020/21 and 2021/22. |
| Report Summary: | The Annual Report |
| Recommendation(s): | A. That the Committee note and approve the Audit Plan |
| Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s): | <p>Tracy Bingham (Strategic Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2845 tracy.bingham@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Tony Gwam (Interim Head of Finance / Deputy Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2608 tony.gwam@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Rashpal Sohal (Finance Manager) (0116) 257 2705 Rashpal.Sohal@Oadby-Wigston.gov.uk</p> |
| Corporate Objectives: | Providing Excellent Services (CO3) |
| Vision and Values: | <p>Accountability (V1) Respect (V2) Teamwork (V3) Innovation (V4) Customer Focus (V5)</p> |
| Report Implications:- | |
| Legal: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Financial: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Corporate Risk Management: | Decreasing Financial Resources / Increasing Financial Pressures (CR1) Reputation Damage (CR4) Regulatory Governance (CR6) |
| Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA): | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Human Rights: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Health and Safety: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Statutory Officers' Comments:- | |

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| Head of Paid Service: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Chief Finance Officer: | As the author, the report is satisfactory. |
| Monitoring Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Consultees: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. |
| Background Papers: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. |
| Appendices: | 1. External Audit Plan – To Follow |

1. Background

- 1.1 Under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, Grant Thornton LLP, as the Council's auditor, are required to satisfy themselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in its use of resources.
- 1.2 The Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) requires Grant Thornton to consider whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in its use of resources. The auditor is no longer required to give a binary qualified/unqualified Value for Money (VFM) conclusion. Instead, they now report in more detail on the Council's overall arrangements, as well as key recommendations on any significant weaknesses in arrangements identified during the audit.
- 1.3 Auditors are required to report their commentary on the Council's arrangement under three areas:
- Financial sustainability
 - Governance
 - Improving economy, efficiency, and effectiveness

2. Outcome

- 2.1 At the time of publishing the agenda for the Audit Committee meeting, the auditors report had not been shared. It is intended that this appendix will be circulated prior to the meeting, assuming internal checks within Grant Thornton are completed in time. A representative from Grant Thornton will attend the meeting to present their report. If for delays prevent the sharing of the auditor's report, this item will be deferred to the next Audit Committee meeting.