



Audit Committee	Wednesday, 25 January 2023	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)**

Purpose of Report:	To present the External Auditors draft Annual Report for 2020/21 and 2021/22.
Report Summary:	The Annual Report details the auditors commentary on the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.
Recommendation(s):	That the Draft Auditors Annual Report is noted.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	<p>Tracy Bingham (Strategic Director / Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2845 tracy.bingham@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Bev Bull (Head of Finance / Deputy Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2608 bev.bull@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Rashpal Sohal (Finance Manager) (0116) 257 2705 Rashpal.Sohal@Oadby-Wigston.gov.uk</p>
Corporate Objectives:	<p>Building, Protecting and Empowering Communities (CO1) Growing the Borough Economically (CO2) Providing Excellent Services (CO3)</p>
Vision and Values:	"A Stronger Borough Together" (Vision)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	<p>Decreasing Financial Resources / Increasing Financial Pressures (CR1) Key Supplier / Partnership Failure (CR2) Political Dynamics (CR3) Reputation Damage (CR4) Effective Utilisation of Assets / Buildings (CR5) Regulatory Governance (CR6) Failure to Respond to a Significant Incident (CR7) Organisational / Transformational Change (CR8) Economy / Regeneration (CR9)</p>

	Increased Fraud (CR10) Cyber Threat / Security (CR11)
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:-	
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"> • Senior Leadership Team
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Draft Annual Auditors Report 2020/21 and 2021/22.

1. Background

- 1.1 Each year, the Council is subject to an audit to ensure it has the appropriate arrangements in place to secure value for money for its residents.
- 1.2 Auditors are required to review the Council's position in respect of
 - Financial sustainability;
 - Managing governance arrangements; and
 - Securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

2. Annual Auditors Report 2020/21 and 2021/22

- 2.1 The outcome of the auditor's work is attached at Appendix 1. This report covers both financial years.
- 2.2 In 2020/21, there were significant weaknesses with financial planning which included the 2021/22 approved capital programme, approved in that year. One key recommendation was made to remedy this weakness and the auditor has reported that the appropriate action was taken in 2021/22 to improve arrangements and mitigate the financial risks identified.
- 2.3 A further 11 improvement recommendations have been made in relation to the auditors findings.
- 2.4 A representative from Grant Thornton will be present at the meeting to take the Committee through their report.