

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

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| Date of Meeting: | 28 th November 2013 |
| Report of: | Chief Operating Officer |
| Subject/Title: | Annual Audit Letter 2012/13 |
| Portfolio Holder | Councillor Peter Raynes |

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The report summarises the External Auditors' findings from the 2012/13 audit.
- 1.2 The report comprises of three elements, the audit of the financial statements, the arrangements to secure value for money and the certification of grant claims and returns.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That members receive and comment on the Annual Audit Letter for 2012/13.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The appointed auditors are required to report to those charged with governance.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including – Carbon Reduction, Health

- 6.1 None.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 As covered in the report.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 The Annual Audit letter has been prepared to meet the requirements set out in the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 The Letter is intended to communicate key messages to the Council and external stakeholders, including members of the public. Grant Thornton reported the detailed findings from their audit work to those charged with governance in the Audit Findings Report on 27th September 2013.
- 10.2 Representatives from Grant Thornton will be attending the meeting to answer any questions raised by members on the Annual Audit Letter.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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Appendix 1: Cheshire East Council Annual Audit Letter 2012/13