

Β

Report of the External Auditor to the meeting of Governance and Audit Committee to be held on 26 June 2015.

Subject:

Review of arrangements for securing value for money

Summary statement:

The report updates the Governance and Audit Committee on our risk assessment for our 2014/15 value for money conclusion

Mark Kirkham Director Mazars LLP

Report Contact: Ross Woodley Phone: (0191) 3836303 E-mail: <u>ross.woodley@mazars.co.uk</u>







Suzan Hemingway, City Solicitor

1. SUMMARY

We have a statutory duty to confirm that you have made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources (the value for money conclusion). In identifying value for money risks we consider a wealth of information from meetings with management, review of documents and benchmarking with other authorities. This report informs the Council of the findings from this risk assessment as well as the further work required to give our value for money conclusion.

We have made one recommendation to management, related to a red risk within the report. There are also several amber risks where we have identified scope for improvement but are satisfied with the remedial action management has in place.

2. BACKGROUND

Not applicable.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

None.

4. OPTIONS

Not applicable.

5. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

Not applicable.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

None.

7. LEGAL APPRAISAL

Not applicable.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Not applicable.

8.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

8.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Not applicable.

8.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

8.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

Not applicable.

8.6 TRADE UNION

Not applicable.

8.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

9. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

10. **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Governance and Audit Committee considers the review of arrangements for securing value for money report and ensures that the recommendation made in the report is addressed when the Medium Term Financial Strategy is updated.

11. APPENDICES

Review of arrangements for securing Value for Money report

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.