

Meeting:	Audit and governance committee
Meeting date:	4 July 2016
Title of report:	External audit progress report and update: year ended 31 March 2016
Report by:	Head of corporate finance/External audit

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose

To consider the external auditors update report.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) the update report at appendix 1 be noted.**

Alternative options

- 1 There are no alternative options; the report provides a factual update on progress against the agreed plan.

Reasons for recommendations

- 2 This report provides the audit and governance committee with a progress report from Grant Thornton in delivering their responsibilities as Herefordshire Council's external auditors. The report also refers to emerging issues and developments that may be relevant to Herefordshire.

Key considerations

- 3 Grant Thornton's report is attached at appendix 1. The report provides the committee with a progress update in delivering their responsibilities as the councils external auditors, no areas of concern have been highlighted in their work completed to date.
- 4 The report also refers to emerging issues and developments that may be relevant to Herefordshire and the Committee may wish to consider what assurances you would like to receive on these issues.

Community impact

- 6 The council's corporate values and plan include commitments to being open transparent and accountable about its performance; a robust external audit function supports these aims.

Equality duty

- 7 None arising from the recommendations.

Financial implications

- 8 None arising from the recommendations.

Legal implications

- 9 None arising from the recommendations.

Risk management

- 10 The report provides an update to the plan approved in March in relation to an additional significant risk relating to pensions and which reflects the national view.

Consultees

- 11 None.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Update report.

Background papers

None