



AUDIT COMMITTEE

16th APRIL 2019

AGENDA ITEM (9)

GRANT THORNTON ASSURANCE

Accountable Member	N/A
Accountable Officer	Mrs Jenny Poole Chief Finance Officer 01285 623313 Jenny.Poole@cotswold.gov.uk

Purpose of Report	For the Audit Committee to discuss its response to a letter from the Council's external auditors (Grant Thornton) regarding how the Audit Committee gains assurance on matters such as fraud, breaches of internal control and compliance with laws and regulations.
Recommendation(s)	That the Audit Committee approves the Chair to sign the response to the letter from Grant Thornton.
Reason(s) for Recommendation(s)	Grant Thornton require an official response from the Chair of the Council's Audit Committee.

Ward(s) Affected	None
Key Decision	No
Recommendation to Council	No

Financial Implications	None.
Legal and Human Rights Implications	None
Environmental and Sustainability Implications	None
Human Resource Implications	None
Key Risks	None
Equalities Impact Assessment	Not Required

Related Decisions	None
Background Documents	None
Appendices	<p>Appendix A – Letter from Grant Thornton to the Chair of the Audit Committee</p> <p>Appendix B - Draft letter to Grant Thornton and Appendix B1 response to questions.</p>

Performance Management Follow Up	None
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<p>Background Information</p> <p>1.0 The Council's external auditor (Grant Thornton) is required to comply with International Auditing Standards. Auditors are therefore required to obtain an understanding of how those charged with governance exercise oversight of management's processes for identifying and reporting the risk of fraud and possible breaches of internal control in the Council. In addition, auditors need to understand how those charged with governance gain assurance that all relevant laws and regulations have been complied with.</p> <p>2.0 Grant Thornton has submitted the letter attached at Appendix A to the chair of the Audit Committee. A copy of the draft response is included at Appendix B for Members consideration.</p>
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