



COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	AUDIT COMMITTEE – 14 NOVEMBER 2019
Report Number	AGENDA ITEM 9
Subject	GRANT THORNTON REPORTS
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr. Mike Every, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance Mike.every@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Jenny Poole, Chief Finance Officer Jenny.Poole@cotswold.gov.uk 01285 623313
Summary/Purpose	For Members to receive and discuss details of the Annual Audit Letter for 2018/19 and an update report from the Council's external auditors (Grant Thornton).
Annexes	Annex A – Grant Thornton report – “The Annual Audit Letter for Cotswold District Council” Annex B – Grant Thornton report – “Audit Progress Report and Sector Update”
Recommendation/s	<i>That the Committee discuss and note the Annual Audit Letter and update report from Grant Thornton.</i>
Corporate priorities	Ensure that all services delivered by the Council are delivered to the highest standard.
Key Decision	No
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	N/A

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1.** The Council's external auditor (Grant Thornton) has provided the Annual Audit Letter for 2018/19 (see Annex A) and an update report for Members to consider (see Annex B).

- 1.2.** The Annual Audit Letter summarises the key findings arising from the work carried out by Grant Thornton at the Council for the year ended 31 March 2019. Detailed findings from the audit work were reported to the Council's Audit Committee (as those charged with governance) in Grant Thornton's Audit Findings Report on 26 September 2019. The key points from the Letter are summarised below:

Financial statements opinion

- 1.3.** An unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements was issued on 15 October 2019.

Value for money conclusion

- 1.4.** The auditor was satisfied that the Council put in place proper arrangements to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources during the year ended 31 March 2019. This was reflected in the audit opinion on 15 October 2019.

Certificate

- 1.5.** The auditor certified the completion of the audit of the accounts of Cotswold District Council in accordance with the requirements of the Code on 15 October 2019.

Audit Progress Report and Sector Update

- 1.6.** The update report includes an update of progress on the audit deliverables for 2018/19 and 2019/20 and highlights emerging issues and developments.

- 1.7.** Representatives from Grant Thornton have been invited to the meeting and will be available to answer any questions on either document.