



**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**AGENDA ITEM (11)**

**USE OF CONSULTANTS**

<b>Accountable Member</b>	Councillor AW Berry Cabinet Member for Resources  Other Cabinet Members (where appropriate on a case by case basis)
<b>Accountable Officer</b>	Jenny Poole Chief Finance Officer 01285 623313 jenny.poole@cotswold.gov.uk

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To provide information on consultancy spend for the 2015//16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years.
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>That the report be considered, and any action(s) be identified as appropriate.</b>
<b>Reason for Recommendation</b>	The Committee has previously requested information on the subject matter, by way of assurance and also to provide an opportunity to review processes.

<b>Ward(s) Affected</b>	Not applicable
<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>Recommendation to Council</b>	Dependent upon the debate outcome(s)

<b>Financial Implications</b>	None arising specifically from this report
<b>Legal and Human Rights Implications</b>	None
<b>Human Resource Implications</b>	None
<b>Environmental and Sustainability Implications</b>	None
<b>Human Resource Implications</b>	None

<b>Key Risks</b>	None arising specifically from this report
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<b>Equalities Analysis</b>	Not required
<b>Related Decisions</b>	None directly relating to this report
<b>Background Documents</b>	Procurement details for each item of consultancy spend
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>Appendix 'A'</b> - Consultancy Spend <b>Appendix 'B'</b> - Authorisations
<b>Performance Management Follow Up</b>	Implement any Committee decision(s)
<b>Options for Joint Working</b>	Joint procurement of consultants will occur if the needs and circumstances suggest that such an approach will be the most effective

### **Background Information**

1. The Committee has previously requested information on consultancy spend, by way of assurance and also to provide an opportunity to review processes.
2. Attached at **Appendix 'A'** are details of consultancy spend for the 2015//16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years. For each item (where the information was available), the document identifies the commissioning service area; the provider used; actual spend; procurement process; and the purpose for which the provider had been engaged. In compiling the document we have applied a very broad definition of consultant - a person who provides expert advice professionally - so the expenditure covers a wide range of work, including legal advisers on planning matters/inquiries.
3. Attached at **Appendix 'B'** is a composite document which provides (i) an extract from the Council Financial Rules regarding authorisation levels; and (ii) an extract from the Council's Contract Rules which is relevant to procurement and the waiver of procurement rules.

(END)