

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**AUDIT, STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017**

**GRANT THORNTON UPDATE – MARCH 2017**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Brian Cooper
Portfolio Holder Consulted	-
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering – Exec Director Finance and Resources
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non–Key Decision

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 To update members on Grant Thornton progress on the Audit and on general issues and developments that may impact on the Council in the future.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **The Committee is asked to note updates as included on Appendix 1.**

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications

**Legal Implications**

- 3.2 The Council has a statutory responsibility to comply with financial regulations.

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.3 The report attached at Appendix 1 updates Members on the progress on work undertaken by Grant Thornton since the last Committee meeting. There are no concerns raised by the auditors in their initial work. There is a focus on ensuring the Council is making progress to close the accounts a month earlier in 2018. The timetable for 2016/17 closedown aims to meet this deadline to enable any issues to be addressed prior to the formal change next year. In addition the appendix includes updates on National issues that are relevant to Local Government at the current time and various Grant Thornton Publications that are available.

- 3.4 Officers are continuing to work with the auditors to ensure the Council meets its statutory financial obligations.

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**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

3.5 There are no implications arising out of this report.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

4.1 As part of all audit work the auditors undertake a risk assessment to ensure that adequate controls are in place within the Council so reliance can be placed on internal systems.

**5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Progress report Grant Thornton Report

**6. KEY**

N/a

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