

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of the Strategic Director (Finance and Resources)

to

Audit Committee

on

24 July 2019

Report prepared by: Deloitte External Auditor

Deloitte: Report to the Audit Committee on the audit for the year ended 31 March 2019

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report summarises the results of the work completed to date for the 2018/19 financial year with regard to:

- the opinion on the Statement of Accounts
- the conclusion on the adequacy of the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources (the VFM conclusion).

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Committee accepts the Report to the Audit Committee on the audit for the year ended 31 March 2019.

3. Background

3.1 A senior representative of Deloitte (the appointed External Auditor to the Council) will present this report to the Audit Committee and respond to Members' questions.

4. Corporate Implications

4.1 Contribution to the Southend 2050 Road Map

Audit work provides assurance and identifies opportunities for improvements that contribute to the delivery of all Southend 2050 outcomes.

4.2 Financial Implications

The fee for the audit work is set by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited and agreed with the Council before the start of the audit. Issues arising during the course of the audit can impact on the audit fee payable.

4.3 Legal Implications

The Council is required by statute to have an external audit of its activities that complies with the requirements of the Code of Audit Practice (the Code) issued by the National Audit Office. By considering this report, the Committee can satisfy itself that this requirement is being discharged.

4.4 People Implications

None

4.5 Property Implications

None

4.6 Consultation

The contents of this report has been discussed and agreed with the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance and Resources.

4.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

None

4.8 Risk Assessment

Periodically considering whether the external auditor is delivering the agreed Annual Audit Plan helps mitigate the risk that this statutory requirement is not met.

4.9 Value for Money

The report includes the auditor's conclusion on the adequacy of the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources (the VFM conclusion)

4.10 Community Safety Implications

None

4.11 Environmental Impact

None

5. Background Papers

None

6. Attachment: Deloitte Report to the Audit Committee on the audit for the year ended 31 March 2019