

The Audit Plan for Tewkesbury Borough Council

Year ending 31 March 2016

14 March 2016

Julie Masci

Associate Director

T 029 2034 7506

E julie.masci@uk.gt.com

David A Johnson

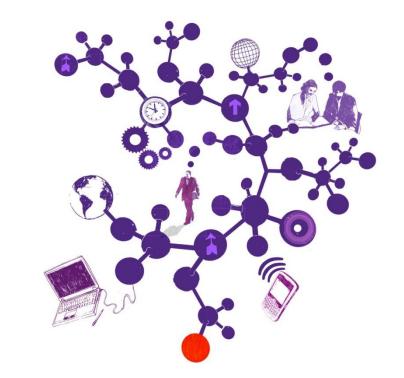
Audit Manager
T 0117 305 7784
E david.a.johnson@uk.gt.com

Aled Evans

In-charge Accountant

T 0117 305 7813

E aled.evans@uk.gt.com



The contents of this report relate only to the matters which have come to our attention, which we believe need to be reported to you as part of our audit process. It is not a comprehensive record of all the relevant matters, which may be subject to change, and in particular we cannot be held responsible to you for reporting all of the risks which may affect the Council or any weaknesses in your internal controls. This report has been prepared solely for your benefit and should not be quoted in whole or in part without our prior written consent. We do not accept any responsibility for any loss occasioned to any third party acting, or refraining from acting on the basis of the content of this report, as this report was not prepared for, nor intended for, any other purpose.



Tewkesbury Borough Council Council Offices Gloucester Road Tewkesbury GL20 5TT

14 March 2016

Dear Members of the Audit Committee

Grant Thornton UK LLP Hartwell House 55-61 Victoria Street Bristol BS1 6FT T +44 (0) 117 305 7600 www.grant-thornton.co.uk

Audit Plan for Tewkesbury Borough Council for the year ending 31 March 2016

This Audit Plan sets out for the benefit of those charged with governance (in the case of Tewkesbury Borough Council, the Audit Committee), an overview of the planned scope and timing of the audit, as required by International Standard on Auditing (UK & Ireland) 260. This document is to help you understand the consequences of our work, discuss issues of risk and the concept of materiality with us, and identify any areas where you may request us to undertake additional procedures. It also helps us gain a better understanding of the Council and your environment. The contents of the Plan have been discussed with management.

We are required to perform our audit in line with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and in accordance with the Code of Practice issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2015.

Our responsibilities under the Code are to:

- give an opinion on the Council's financial statements
- satisfy ourselves the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

As auditors we are responsible for performing the audit, in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland), which is directed towards forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities for the preparation of the financial statements.

Yours sincerely

Julie Masci

Associate Director

Chartered Accountants

Grant Thomton UK LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales: No. OC307742. Registered office: Grant Thomton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP.
A list of members is available from our registered office. Grant Thomton UK LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Grant Thomton UK LLP is a member firm of Grant Thomton International Ltd (GTIL). GTIL and the member firms are not a worldwide partnership. Services are delivered by the member firms. GTIL and its member firms are not agents of, and do not obliqate, one another and are not liable for one another's acts or omissions. Please see grant-Homton. oc. uk for further details.

Contents

Section	Page
1) Understanding your business	5
2) Developments and other requirements relevant to the audit	6
3) Our audit approach	7
5) Materiality	8
4) Significant risks identified	9
5) Other risks identified	10
6) Value for Money	12
7) Results of interim audit work	14
8) Key dates	17
9) Fees and independence	18
10) Communication of audit matters with those charged with governance	19
Appendices	
A. Action plan	21

Understanding your business

In planning our audit we need to understand the challenges and opportunities the Council is facing. We set out a summary of our understanding below.

Challenges/opportunities

1. Autumn Statement 2015 and financial health

- The Chancellor proposed that local government would have greater control over its finances, although this was accompanied by a 24% reduction in central government funding to local government over 5 years.
- Despite the increased ownership, the financial health of the sector is likely to become increasingly challenging.

2. Devolution

- The Autumn Statement 2015 also included proposals to devolve further powers to localities.
- The Council is part of the Gloucestershire Devolution plan and continue to review further requirements for Secretary of State approval.

3. Business Rates

- The ongoing appeal by the Council's largest business provides a challenge to the Council achieving a balanced budget.
- The Council is part of a business rates pool for 2015/16 and has withdrawn for 2016/17. The ongoing appeal could potentially result in a payment to the Council and a deficit position for the pool.

4. Earlier closedown of accounts

 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require councils to bring forward the approval and audit of financial statements to 31 May and 31 July respectively by the 2017/18 financial year.









Our response

- We will consider the Council's plans for addressing its financial position as part of our work to reach our VFM conclusion.
- We will consider your plans as part of the local devolution agenda as part of our work in reaching our VFM conclusion.
- We are able to provide support and challenge to your plans based on our knowledge of devolution elsewhere in the country.
- We will review your Medium Term
 Financial Plan and financial strategy as
 part of our work on your arrangements for
 financial resilience.
- We will discuss your plans for business rate collection and future involvement in the Business rates pool through our regular meetings with senior management and those charged with governance, providing a view where appropriate
- We will work with you to identify areas of your accounts production where you can learn from good practice in other authorities.

Developments and other requirements relevant to your audit

In planning our audit we also consider the impact of key developments in the sector and take account of national audit requirements as set out in the Code of Audit Practice and associated guidance.

Developments and other requirements

1. Fair value accounting

- A new accounting standard on fair value (IFRS 13) has been adopted and applies for the first time in 2015/16.
- This will have a particular impact on the valuation of surplus assets within property, plant and equipment which are now required to be valued at fair value in line with IFRS 13 rather than the existing use value of the asset.
- Investment property assets are required to be carried at fair value as in previous years.
- There are a number of additional disclosure requirements of IFRS 13.

2. Corporate governance

- The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require local authorities to produce a Narrative Statement, which reports on your financial performance and use of resources in the year, and replaces the explanatory foreword.
- You are required to produce an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) as part of your financial statements.

3. Financial Pressures

- The latest Autumn Statement requires the Council to make savings and therefore manage service provision with less resources.
- Monitoring of savings is required as a part of the ongoing monitoring of the budget and the medium term financial strategy

4. Other Requirements

- The Council is required to submit a Whole of Government accounts pack on which we provide an audit opinion
- The Council completes grant claims and returns on which audit certification is required





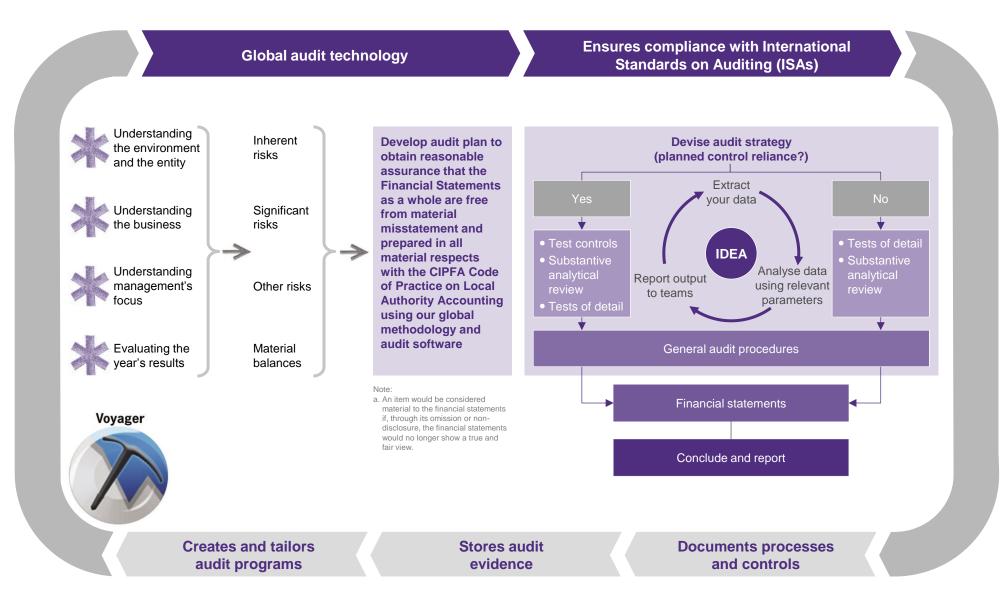




Our response

- We will keep the Council informed of changes to the financial reporting requirements for 2015/16 through ongoing discussions and invitations to our technical update workshops.
- We will discuss this with you at an early stage, including reviewing the basis of valuation of your surplus assets and investment property assets to ensure they are valued on the correct basis.
- We will review your draft financial statements to ensure you have complied with the disclosure requirements of IFRS 13.
- We will review your Narrative Statement to ensure it reflects the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice when this is updated, and make recommendations for improvement.
- We will review your arrangements for producing the AGS and consider whether it is consistent with our knowledge of the Council and the requirements of CIPFA guidance.
- We will review the Council's performance against the 2015-16 budget, including consideration of performance against savings plans.
- We will carry out work on the Whole of Government accounts return in line with the NAO requirements
- We will certify the housing benefit subsidy claim in accordance with the requirements specified by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd.

Our audit approach



Materiality

In performing our audit, we apply the concept of materiality, following the requirements of International Standard on Auditing (UK & Ireland) (ISA) 320: Materiality in planning and performing an audit.

The standard states that 'misstatements, including omissions, are considered to be material if they, individually or in aggregate, could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements'.

As is usual in public sector entities, we have determined materiality for the statements as a whole as a proportion of the gross revenue expenditure of the Council. For purposes of planning the audit we have determined overall materiality to be £698,000 (being 2% of gross revenue expenditure). We will consider whether this level is appropriate during the course of the audit and will advise you if we revise this.

In the previous year, we determined materiality to be £658,000 (being 2% of gross revenue expenditure).

Under ISA 450, auditors also set an amount below which misstatements would be clearly trivial and would not need to be accumulated or reported to those charged with governance because we would not expect that the accumulation of such amounts would have a material effect on the financial statements. "Trivial" matters are clearly inconsequential, whether taken individually or in aggregate and whether judged by any criteria of size, nature or circumstances. We have defined the amount below which misstatements would be clearly trivial to be £33,000.

ISA 320 also requires auditors to determine separate, lower, materiality levels where there are 'particular classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures for which misstatements of lesser amounts than materiality for the financial statements as a whole could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users'.

We have identified the following items where separate materiality levels are appropriate.

Balance/transaction/disclosure	Explanation	Materiality level
Cash and cash equivalents	Although the balance of cash and cash equivalents is immaterial, all transactions made by the Council affect the balance and it is therefore considered to be material by nature.	£1,000
Disclosures of officers' remuneration, salary bandings and exit packages in notes to the statements	Due to public interest in these disclosures and the statutory requirement for them to be made.	£1,000
Disclosure of auditors' remuneration in notes to the statements	Due to public interest in these disclosures and the statutory requirement for them to be made.	£1,000

Significant risks identified

"Significant risks often relate to significant non-routine transactions and judgmental matters. Non-routine transactions are transactions that are unusual, either due to size or nature, and that therefore occur infrequently. Judgmental matters may include the development of accounting estimates for which there is significant measurement uncertainty" (ISA 315). In this section we outline the significant risks of material misstatement which we have identified. There are two presumed significant risks which are applicable to all audits under auditing standards (International Standards on Auditing - ISAs) which are listed below:

Significant risk	Description	Substantive audit procedures
The revenue cycle includes fraudulent transactions	Under ISA 240 there is a presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to the improper recognition of revenue. This presumption can be rebutted if the auditor concludes that there is no risk of material misstatement due to fraud relating to revenue recognition.	Having considered the risk factors set out in ISA240 and the nature of the revenue streams at Tewkesbury Borough Council, we have determined that the risk of fraud arising from revenue recognition can be rebutted, because: There is little incentive to manipulate revenue recognition Opportunities to manipulate revenue recognition are very limited The culture and ethical frameworks of local authorities, including Tewkesbury Borough Council, mean that all forms of fraud are seen as unacceptable.
Management over-ride of controls	Under ISA 240 it is presumed that the risk of management over-ride of controls is present in all entities.	Work completed to date: Documentation of controls at entity and activity levels Initial testing of journal entries for months 1 -10 Further work planned: Review of accounting estimates, judgments and decisions made by management Testing of journal entries for months 11-12 Review of unusual significant transactions

Other risks identified

"The auditor should evaluate the design and determine the implementation of the entity's controls, including relevant control activities, over those risks for which, in the auditor's judgment, it is not possible or practicable to reduce the risks of material misstatement at the assertion level to an acceptably low level with audit evidence obtained only from substantive procedures" (ISA (UK & Ireland) 315).

In this section we outline the other risks of material misstatement which we have identified as a result of our planning.

Other risks	Description	Audit approach
Operating expenses	Creditors understated or not recorded in the correct period (Operating expenses understated)	 Work Completed to date Documentation and understanding of controls Walkthrough of controls to confirm that controls are operating as described Substantive testing of operating expenditure for Months 1 to 10 Further work planned Complete remaining substantive testing of operating expenditure Review of transactions before and after year end
Employee remuneration	Employee remuneration accruals understated (Remuneration expenses not correct)	 Work Completed to date: Document our understanding of the controls operating in the payroll system Walkthrough of controls to confirm that controls are operating as described Substantive testing of employee remuneration expenses months 1 - 10 Payroll trend analysis for months 1 - 10 Further work planned Complete substantive testing of employee remuneration expenses Complete payroll trend analysis Review of Senior Officer remuneration disclosures

Other risks identified (continued)

Other material balances and transactions

Under International Standards on Auditing, "irrespective of the assessed risks of material misstatement, the auditor shall design and perform substantive procedures for each material class of transactions, account balance and disclosure". All other material balances and transaction streams will therefore be audited. However, the procedures will not be as extensive as the procedures adopted for the risks identified in the previous section but will include:

- Investments (long term and short term)
- Cash and cash equivalents
- Borrowing and other liabilities (long term and short term)
- Provisions
- Usable and unusable reserves
- Movement in Reserves Statement and associated notes
- Statement of cash flows and associated notes
- Financing and investment income and expenditure
- Taxation and non-specific grants

- Segmental reporting note
- Officers' remuneration note
- Leases note
- Related party transactions note
- Capital expenditure and capital financing note
- Financial instruments note
- · Collection Fund and associated notes

Other audit responsibilities

- We will undertake work to satisfy ourselves that disclosures made in the Annual Governance Statement are in line with CIPFA/SOLACE guidance and consistent with our knowledge of the Council.
- We will read the Narrative Statement and check that it is consistent with the statements on which we give an opinion and disclosures are in line with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice.
- We will carry out work on consolidation schedules for the Whole of Government Accounts process in accordance with NAO instructions to auditors.
- We will give electors the opportunity to raise questions about the accounts and consider and decide upon objections received in relation to the accounts

Value for Money

Background

The Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014 ('the Act') and the NAO Code of Audit Practice ('the Code') require us to consider whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. This is known as the Value for Money (VfM) conclusion.

The National Audit Office (NAO) issued its guidance for auditors on value for money work in November 2015 <u>here</u>.

The Act and NAO guidance state that for local government bodies, auditors are required to give a conclusion on whether the Council has put proper arrangements in place.

The guidance identifies one single criterion for auditors to evaluate:

In all significant respects, the audited body had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people.

This is supported by three sub-criteria as set out below:

Sub-criteria	Detail
Informed decision making	 Acting in the public interest, through demonstrating and applying the principles and values of good governance Understanding and using appropriate cost and performance information to support informed decision making and performance management Reliable and timely financial reporting that supports the delivery of strategic priorities Managing risks effectively and maintaining a sound system of internal control.
Sustainable resource deployment	 Planning finances effectively to support the sustainable delivery of strategic priorities and maintain statutory functions Managing assets effectively to support the delivery of strategic priorities Planning, organising and developing the workforce effectively to deliver strategic priorities.
Working with partners and other third parties	 Working with third parties effectively to deliver strategic priorities Commissioning services effectively to support the delivery of strategic priorities Procuring supplies and services effectively to support the delivery of strategic priorities.

Value for Money (continued)

Risk assessment

We completed an initial risk assessment based on the NAO's guidance. In our initial risk assessment, we considered:

- our cumulative knowledge of the Council, including work performed in previous years in respect of the VfM conclusion and the opinion on the financial statements.
- the findings of other inspectorates and review agencies.
- any illustrative significant risks identified and communicated by the NAO in its Supporting Information.
- any other evidence which we consider necessary to conclude on your arrangements.

We identify significant risks which we are required to communicate to you. The NAO's Code of Audit Practice defines 'significant' as follows:

A matter is significant if, in the auditor's professional view, it is reasonable to conclude that the matter would be of interest to the audited body or the wider public. Significance has both qualitative and quantitative aspects.

We have set out below the risks we have identified, how they relate to the Code sub-criteria, and the work we propose to undertake to address these risks.

Significant risk	Link to sub-criteria	Work proposed to address
Medium Term Financial Strategy The ongoing challenge of meeting the savings outlined by the Chancellor as part of the Autumn Statement continue to put pressures on Local Government Finances. The delivery of the Financial Strategy, and associated savings, is currently reliant on the continuation of the New Homes Bonus and ongoing transformational changes. The continued appeal by the Council's largest business further enforces the need to identify alternative methods of achieving its financial position for the future.	This links to the Council's arrangements for planning finances effectively to support the sustainable delivery of strategic priorities and using appropriate cost and performance information to support informed decision making.	We will review the project management and risk assurance frameworks established by the Council to establish how it is identifying, managing and monitoring these risks. We will review the robustness of the Council's financial plans and the extent to which the Council is seeking to identify further income generation opportunities and alternative solutions to mitigate the risk of future cuts in resources and government funding

Results of interim audit work

The findings of our interim audit work, and the impact of our findings on the accounts audit approach, are summarised in the table below:

	Work performed	Conclusion
Internal audit	We have completed a high level review of internal audit's overall arrangements. Our work has not identified any issues which we wish to bring to your attention We have also reviewed internal audit's work on the Council's key financial systems to date. We have not identified any significant weaknesses impacting on our responsibilities.	Overall, we have concluded that the internal audit service provides an independent and satisfactory service to the Council and that internal audit work contributes to an effective internal control environment. Our review of internal audit work has not identified any weaknesses which impact on our audit approach.
Entity level controls	We have obtained an understanding of the overall control environment relevant to the preparation of the financial statements including:	Our work has identified no material weaknesses which are likely to adversely impact on the Council's financial statements
	Communication and enforcement of integrity and ethical values	
	Commitment to competence	
	Participation by those charged with governance	
	Management's philosophy and operating style	
	Organisational structure	
	Assignment of authority and responsibility	
	Human resource policies and practices	

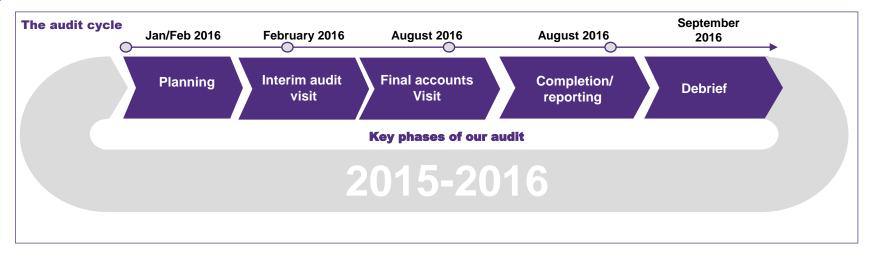
Results of interim audit work (continued)

	Work performed	Conclusion
Review of information technology controls	A high level review of the general IT control environment has been undertaken, as part of the overall review of the internal controls system. IT (information technology) controls were observed to have been implemented in accordance with our documented understanding.	Our work has identified no material weaknesses which are likely to adversely impact on the Council's financial statements
Walkthrough testing	We have completed walkthrough tests of the Council's controls operating in areas where we consider that there is a risk of material misstatement to the financial statements.	All other internal controls have been implemented by the Council in accordance with our documented understanding.

Results of interim audit work (continued)

	Work performed	Conclusion
Journal entry controls	We have reviewed the Council's journal entry policies and procedures as part of determining our journal entry testing strategy and have not identified any material weaknesses which are likely to adversely impact on the Council's control environment or financial statements. To date we have undertaken detailed testing on journal transactions recorded for the first ten months of the financial year, by extracting 'unusual' entries for further review.	Our testing has identified one issue in which we would like to bring to your attention. It was identified that journals over £10,000 are normally reviewed by the finance manager. However, a report is not being produced for Suspense (GLSUSP) journals so these have not been subject to review in line with the Council's requirements. Also, each report for review is produced based on the 'posted to' date rather than 'posted on' date. This means that if a journal was backdated it is not included within this report and therefore not subject to review. We will undertake further work on journals processed at the year end in order to ensure that all journals over £10k are being reviewed. Our testing of month 11 and 12 journals will be undertaken as part of our final accounts visit.
Early substantive testing	We have completed some early substantive testing in the following areas: Operating expenses – transactional testing for months 1 -10 Employee remuneration – Substantive testing of individual payroll records and trend analysis months 1-10 Revenue – transactional testing for months 1-10 Property, Plant and Equipment – Existence testing through agreement tot deeds.	From our testing of fees and charges income, we found one issue which relates to Garden waste subscriptions. Total garden waste income Receipts in advance are made for the subscriptions (as expected) but these are generated based on the payment dates. Substantive testing of a sample of transactions in relation to fees and charges identified that revenue has been incorrectly recognised within the financial year. Revenue has been recognised at the point of payment and not for the period to which it relates. The total value of garden waste as at month 10 is approximately £550k. The recognition at point of payment can cause both an over and understatement and further work will be needed by officers to identify the value of these variances

Key dates



Date	Activity
January/ February 2016	Planning
February 2016	Interim site visit
March 2016	Presentation of audit plan to Audit Committee
August 2016	Year end fieldwork
August 2016	Audit findings clearance meeting with S151 officer
September 2016	Report audit findings to those charged with governance (Audit Committee)
September 2016	Sign financial statements opinion

Fees and independence

Fees

	£
Council audit	44,921
Grant certification	9,110
Total audit fees (excluding VAT)	54,031

Our fee assumptions include:

- Supporting schedules to all figures in the accounts are supplied by the agreed dates and in accordance with the agreed upon information request list.
- The scope of the audit, and the Council and its activities, have not changed significantly.
- The Council will make available management and accounting staff to help us locate information and to provide explanations.
- The accounts presented for audit are materially accurate, supporting working papers and evidence agree to the accounts, and all audit queries are resolved promptly.

Grant certification

- Our fees for grant certification cover only housing benefit subsidy certification, which falls under the remit of Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited
- Fees in respect of other grant work, such as reasonable assurance reports, are shown under 'Fees for other services'.

Fees for other services

Service	Fees £
None	Nil

Fees for other services

Fees for other services reflect those agreed at the time of issuing our Audit Plan. Any changes will be reported in our Audit Findings Report and Annual Audit Letter

Independence and ethics

We confirm that there are no significant facts or matters that impact on our independence as auditors that we are required or wish to draw to your attention. We have complied with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards and therefore we confirm that we are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

Full details of all fees charged for audit and non-audit services will be included in our Audit Findings Report at the conclusion of the audit.

We confirm that we have implemented policies and procedures to meet the requirements of the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards.

Communication of audit matters with those charged with governance

International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) (ISA) 260, as well as other ISAs, prescribe matters which we are required to communicate with those charged with governance, and which we set out in the table opposite.

This document, The Audit Plan, outlines our audit strategy and plan to deliver the audit, while The Audit Findings Report will be issued prior to approval of the financial statements and will present key issues and other matters arising from the audit, together with an explanation as to how these have been resolved.

We will communicate any adverse or unexpected findings affecting the audit on a timely basis, either informally or via a report to the Council.

Respective responsibilities

This plan has been prepared in the context of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (http://www.psaa.co.uk/appointing-auditors/terms-of-appointment/).

We have been appointed as the Council's independent external auditors by the Audit Commission, the body responsible for appointing external auditors to local public bodies in England at the time of our appointment. As external auditors, we have a broad remit covering finance and governance matters.

Our annual work programme is set in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice ('the Code') issued by the NAO and includes nationally prescribed and locally determined work (https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/about-code/). Our work considers the Council's key risks when reaching our conclusions under the Code.

It is the responsibility of the Council to ensure that proper arrangements are in place for the conduct of its business, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for. We have considered how the Council is fulfilling these responsibilities.

Our communication plan	Audit Plan	Audit Findings
Respective responsibilities of auditor and management/those charged with governance	✓	
Overview of the planned scope and timing of the audit. Form, timing and expected general content of communications	✓	
Views about the qualitative aspects of the entity's accounting and financial reporting practices, significant matters and issues arising during the audit and written representations that have been sought		✓
Confirmation of independence and objectivity	✓	✓
A statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, relationships and other matters which might be thought to bear on independence.	✓	✓
Details of non-audit work performed by Grant Thornton UK LLP and network firms, together with fees charged.		
Details of safeguards applied to threats to independence		
Material weaknesses in internal control identified during the audit		✓
Identification or suspicion of fraud involving management and/or others which results in material misstatement of the financial statements		✓
Non compliance with laws and regulations		✓
Expected modifications to the auditor's report, or emphasis of matter		✓
Uncorrected misstatements		✓
Significant matters arising in connection with related parties		✓
Significant matters in relation to going concern		✓

Appendices

Action plan

Priority

High - Significant effect on control system **Medium** - Effect on control system

Low - Best practice

Rec No.	Recommendation	Priority	Management response	Implementation date & responsibility
1	The Council should review the way that payments in advance are recorded and ensure that the revenue is recognised in the correct period.	Low	The calculation of Receipts in Advance in relation to garden waste is an estimation technique based on information available from the financial ledger. The information held in the ledger is not sufficient to identify the renewal date that the payment relates to.	April 2016 Emma Harley
			In the 2014/15 financial statements the total income from garden waste was approximately £550k and the receipts in advance identified was £159k. Neither figure is material to the statements.	
			To fully allocate payments to the renewal date would require a significant investment of resources to investigate approximately 15000 annual payments. To fully allocated all payments would move some of receipts in advance by 1 month, however it is our view that as it would impact on all periods and the year-end figure would therefore not be significantly different from the current Receipt in Advance figure.	
			The council is satisfied that the estimation technique used is sufficient to produce materially accurate financial statements, whilst making best use of resources available. To ensure that the reader of the statements is aware of this we will make a disclosure about the estimation technique used in the notes, and state that it is not considered to have a material impact on the financial statements.	

Action plan

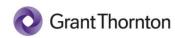
Priority

High - Significant effect on control system

Medium - Effect on control system

Low - Best practice

Rec No.	Recommendation	Priority	Management response	Implementation date & responsibility
2	The Council should ensure that all journals over £10,000 are reviewed by an appropriate member of the finance staff to ensure that all transactions are appropriately processed and recorded.	Medium	Extended monthly reporting criteria have been implemented as part of the Monthly Balancing Routines to ensure that all Journals raised each month over £10,000 are reviewed. Year-end procedures are in place that all Journals raised in year over £10k are reviewed again by the Finance Manager	Implemented



© 2015 Grant Thornton UK LLP. All rights reserved. 'Grant Thornton' means Grant Thornton UK LLP, a limited liability partnership.

Grant Thornton is a member firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd (Grant Thornton International). References to 'Grant Thornton' are to the brand under which the Grant Thornton member firms operate and refer to one or more member firms, as the context requires. Grant Thornton International and the member firms are not a worldwide partnership. Services are delivered independently by member firms, which are not responsible for the services or activities of one another. Grant Thornton International does not provide services to clients.

grant-thornton.co.uk