

This Report will be made public on 19 May 2021



Report Number **AuG/21/03**

To: Audit and Governance Committee
Date: 27 May 2021
Status: Non-Key Decision
Head of Service: Charlotte Spendley, Director of Corporate Services

Subject: Grant Thornton Audit Plan for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Summary:

The report presents the Grant Thornton Audit Plan, which focuses on their proposed work on auditing the statement of accounts for 2020/21 and an update on the audit fees.

Reasons for recommendations:

The Committee is asked to agree the recommendation below to enable Grant Thornton to carry out their work in line with the plan.

Recommendations:

1. To receive and note Report AuG/21/03.
2. To consider Grant Thornton's Audit Plan for the year ended 31 March 2021 and audit fees as outlined within the Appendix to this report.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Grant Thornton has recently concluded their risk assessment. They have now produced their Audit Plan for the Statement of Accounts audit for 2020/21, which includes an update on audit fees chargeable.
- 1.2 The full report is set out at Appendix 1. A representative from Grant Thornton will be attending the meeting to present the Audit Plan and answer Members' questions.

2. KEY MILESTONES AND DEADLINES

- 2.1 Grant Thornton's aim is to complete their 2020/21 audit work and issue the audit opinion and value for money conclusion by 30 September 2021. This is the date that Local Authorities are required to publish their audited accounts as outlined in the Accounts & Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021.
- 2.2 A copy of the full plan is attached at Appendix 1.

3. FEES

- 3.1 Fees of £71,053 are proposed for the audit of the financial statements, which is an increase from the previous year's fees of £62,161. Estimated fees for grant certification work are also outlined within the plan at £17,000.

4. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

4.1 Legal Officer's Comments (AK)

There are no additional legal comments arising from this report

4.2 Finance Officer's Comments (CS)

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

Charlotte Spendley – Director of Corporate Services
Telephone: 07935 517986 - email: charlotte.spendley@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

- None

Appendices:

1. Grant Thornton Audit Plan 2020/21.