

OVERVIEW (AUDIT) PANEL

Monday, 21 November 2016

Commenced: 2.00 pm

Terminated: 2.20 pm

Present: Councillors Ricci (Chair), Bailey, Fairfoull, Peet, K Quinn, Taylor and K Welsh

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Ryan, Bell, J Fitzpatrick, Kitchen and Pearce

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

20. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Overview (Audit) Panel held on 12 September 2016 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

21. GRANT THORNTON 2015/16 ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER

The Assistant Executive Director (Finance) submitted a report, which detailed the annual audit letter for Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and Greater Manchester Pension Fund from Grant Thornton for the external audit of 2015/16. A copy of the letter was appended to the report.

Representatives from Grant Thornton attended the meeting to present the letter. The annual audit letter summarised the key findings arising from the work carried out for the year ending 31 March 2016. An unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements had been delivered on 12 September 2016; the audit did not identify any adjustments affecting the Council's expenditure or level of useable reserves. The report highlighted that the Council had put in place proper arrangements to ensure, economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources during the year.

It was reported that the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting required authorities to account for Highways Network Asset at depreciated replacement cost from 1 April 2016. Two briefings had been shared and further briefings would be issued during the coming year to update on key developments and emerging issues.

Members requested that their thanks be conveyed to all involved in another successful audit.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Audit Letter for 2015/16 be noted.

22. SCRUTINY REPORT - HOMELESSNESS AND THE DEMAND FOR TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

A report was submitted by the Chair of the People Scrutiny Panel, which commented on the Executive response made by Councillor Gerald Cooney Executive Member (Healthy and Working) in October 2016 to the Scrutiny Review of 'Homelessness and the Demand for Temporary

Accommodation' and the recommendations made to support future services, which was concluded in April 2016.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations detailed in section 8 of Appendix 2 to the report be noted.

23. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR