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| <b>Report to:</b>  | <b>AUDIT PANEL</b>   |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 12 March 2019  |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b>  | Kathy Roe – Director of Finance  |
| <b>Subject:</b>  | <b>EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT</b>  |
| <b>Report Summary:</b>   | <p>As the Council’s appointed External Auditors for 2018/19, Mazars are required to undertake work to enable them to form and express an opinion on the Financial Statements, including the Annual Governance Statement, and arrangements to secure value for money.</p> <p>This audit progress report provides the Audit Panel with an update on External Audit progress in delivering their responsibilities.</p>                  |
| <b>Recommendations:</b>  | That the External Audit progress report is noted.  |
| <b>Corporate Plan:</b>   | Effective corporate governance and a robust approach to economy, efficiency and effectiveness underpin the delivery of the Corporate Plan.   |
| <b>Policy Implications:</b>  | There are no wider policy implications arising from this report.   |
| <b>Financial Implications:<br/>(Authorised by the<br/>statutory Section 151<br/>Officer &amp; Chief Finance<br/>Officer)</b> | There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.   |
| <b>Legal Implications:<br/>(Authorised by the<br/>Borough Solicitor)</b>   | This report provides high level information about the national framework which should assist the Council’s compliance with auditing, accounting and governance requirements to deliver value for money.  |
| <b>Risk Management:</b>  | The Council has arrangements in place to ensure that the Council meets the required standards in financial reporting, and that robust arrangements are in place to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources. External Audit provide a source of assurance over these arrangements.   |
| <b>Background Information:</b>   | <p>The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Heather Green, Finance Business Partner:</p> <p> Telephone: 0161 342 2929</p> <p> e-mail: <a href="mailto:heather.green@tameside.gov.uk">heather.green@tameside.gov.uk</a></p> |