

This Report will be made public
on 25 February 2020

Report Number **AG/19/27**

To: Audit and Governance Committee
Date: 5 March 2020
Status: Non-executive Decision
Head of Service: Charlotte Spendley, Director – Corporate Services

Subject: Grant Thornton Risk Assessment Work

Summary: Grant Thornton are seeking confirmation from the Committee about how it gains assurance from management. Their request includes a series of questions on fraud, laws and regulations. The proposed response is enclosed.

Reasons for recommendations:

The Committee is asked to agree the recommendation below and approve the recommended responses to Grant Thornton.

Recommendations:

1. To receive and note Report AuG/19/27.
2. To consider and approve the proposed response to Grant Thornton's request.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. Grant Thornton have requested the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee provide confirmation over the frameworks and process in place within the Council. A copy of the request and the proposed responses are attached at Appendix 1. The purpose is to contribute to effective communication between the Council's external auditor and the Committee.
- 1.2. In order to comply with international auditing standards, each year Grant Thornton is required to confirm their understanding of how the Committee gains assurance over management processes and arrangements. The questions cover important areas relating to the auditor risk assessment, including processes for managing risks relating to fraud, law and regulation.
- 1.3. A representative from Grant Thornton will be in attendance at the meeting to present the report and answer Members' questions.

2. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

Legal Officer's Comments (AK)

- 2.1 There are no legal implications arising directly out of this report.

Finance Officer's Comments (CS)

- 2.2 There are no additional comments arising from this report.

Diversity and Equalities Implications (CS)

- 2.3 There are none arising directly from this report

3 CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

Charlotte Spendley, Director – Corporate Services

Tel: 07935 517986 E-mail: charlotte.spendley@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

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

No background documents have been used.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Response to questions raised by Grant Thornton.