

Barrow Borough Council
Audit and Governance Committee
29 July 2021
External Audit Fee

Report from: Director of Resources

Report Author: Director of Resources

Wards: None

1.0 Summary and Conclusions

1.1 Grant Thornton have confirmed the audit fee for 2020-2021 as £62,772.

1.2 This is an increase against the scale fee set by Public Sector Audit Appointments for new and ongoing issues added to the audit scope.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Audit and Governance Committee receive the External Audit Fee for 2020-2021.

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 Grant Thornton have produced the audit scope and additional work fee letter for 2020-2021 (**Appendix 1**).

3.2 The scale fee is set by Public Sector Audit Appointments at £39,362 for this authority.

3.3 The new and ongoing issues added to the audit scope increase the audit fee by £23,410 to a total of £62,772 for 2020-2021.

3.4 The additional work/assurance is contained in the audit scope and additional work letter from Grant Thornton (**Appendix 1**).

3.5 Auditors must undertake sufficient work to comply with the requirements of the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office and relevant professional standards, and to enable them to discharge their statutory responsibilities and their contractual obligations to PSAA.

3.6 Grant certification fees are separate to this for the DWP housing benefit subsidy claim and Housing Capital Receipts report.

4.0 Consultation

4.1 Consultation is not relevant to the recommendation.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 There are no alternative options as the report is presented for noting.

6.0 Contribution to Council Plan Priorities

6.1 In order to be able to deliver Council Plan Priorities the organisation must be sound in terms of internal control and governance and the Audit and Governance Committee is charged with that role.

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1.1 Audit fees are funded from the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account revenue budgets. The fees for 2020-2021 have been accrued at year-end. The ongoing revenue budgets will be revised as part of monitoring 2021-2022. There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

Legal

7.1.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity

7.2 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No, this report is for information.

Contact Officers

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Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Audit Scope and Additional Work 2020/21