

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

25 January 2016

Report of the Director of Finance and Transformation

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 GRANT THORNTON – AUDIT COMMITTEE UPDATE FOR TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

This report provides the Audit Committee with a report on progress in delivering our responsibilities as your external auditors. The paper also includes a summary of emerging national issues and developments that may be relevant to you as a Council.

1.1 Committee Update

1.1.1 Attached at **[Annex 1]** is a report from Grant Thornton giving information on the following areas:

- Planned work for 2015/16.
- Reforging local government: Summary findings of financial health checks and governance reviews.
- Turning up the volume: The Business Location Index.
- Making devolution work: A practical guide for local leaders.
- Growing healthy communities: The Health and wellbeing index.
- Knowing the Ropes – Audit Committee Effectiveness Review.
- Supporting members in governance.
- Plans for local government to gain new powers and retain local taxes.
- Councils must deliver local plans for new homes by 2017.
- Improving efficiency of council tax collection.
- Code of Audit Practice.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 None.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 As set out in the paper.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 None.

Background papers:

contact: Paul Worden

Nil

Sharon Shelton
Director of Finance and Transformation