

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

16 June 2014

Report of the Director of Finance and Transformation

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 AUDIT COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME AND SCALES OF FEES 2014/15

This report informs Members of the Audit Commission's Work Programme and Scales of Fees 2014/15.

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Following consultation, the Audit Commission Board has approved the 2014/15 work programme and scales of fees for the audit of the accounts of local government, fire and rescue and police bodies. The Commission do plan to make any changes to the work programme for 2014/15 and have set scale fees at the same level applicable for 2013/14. Attached for information is the Work Programme and Scales of Fees for 2014/15 [**Annex 1**]. The scale of fees for each audited body is made available on the Commission's website and ours is £60,135. The Commission also charge for certification work where the indicative fee is £21,600.
- 1.1.2 Separately from setting the fees for 2014/15, the Commission is also paying rebates in respect of audit fees to audited bodies, returning some £6.8m to local government, fire and rescue and police bodies. The rebate reflects the efficiency savings achieved by the Commission ahead of its closure in March 2015.
- 1.1.3 The Commission will set the fees and work programme for 2015/16 before it closes. Contracts with audit suppliers run until 2016/17, with a possibility of extension for up to three years. The responsibility for overseeing these contracts, and for setting fees under them, will pass to a transitional body from April 2015.

1.2 Legal Implications

- 1.2.1 Legally, we have no choice but to accept the final version of the 2014/15 Work Programme and Scales of Fees and will continue to cooperate with our external auditors who serve us.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 As set out above.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 None.

Background papers:

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Nil

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