

Report to: **Audit, Best Value and Community Services Scrutiny Committee**  
Date: **14 March 2017**  
By: **Chief Operating Officer**  
Title of report: **KPMG Certification of Claims and Returns for the year ended 31 March 2016**  
Purpose of report: **To report to the Committee the external auditor's findings from the 2015/16 returns certification.**

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Committee is recommended to note the report.**

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### **1. Background**

1.1 The Council is responsible for compiling grant claims and returns in accordance with the requirements and the timescales set by central government.

### **2. Supporting Information**

2.1 The Council's external auditors (KPMG) annually review the claims/returns through a grants certification audit. KPMG require the Council to communicate the key messages from the grants certification audit with those charged with governance, which at East Sussex County Council is the Audit, Best Value and Community Services Scrutiny Committee. The attached report from KPMG (Appendix 1) covers certification of claims and returns during 2015/16.

2.2 There were two returns certified by KPMG in relation to the 2015/16 financial year, relating to the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) and Teachers Pension Authority (TPA) returns. The fees for these returns were £2,000 and £4,000 respectively.

2.3 Members will note that the external auditor is positive about the Council's processes for grant certification and makes no recommendations for improvement.

### **3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

3.1 KPMG has undertaken certification of returns and the audit did not identify any matters which require reporting to members.

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Local Member(s): All

Background Documents  
None