

Report to: **Audit, Best Value and Community Services Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **14 July 2017**

By: **Chief Operating Officer**

Title of report: **Review of the KPMG report to those charged with governance and Pension Fund Annual Report for 2016-17**

Purpose of report: **For the Committee to review the Independent Auditor's (KPMG) report to those charged with governance prior to its submission to the Pension Committee on 17 July 2017.**

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Committee is asked to:

- 1) note the report and its appendices; and**
 - 2) identify any concerns arising from the Independent Auditor's (KPMG) Report that need to be brought to the attention of the Pension Committee.**
-

1. Background

1.1 This report summarises the key findings arising from KPMG final audit work in relation to the Pension Fund Annual Report, in compliance with the requirement for administering authorities to produce a pension fund annual report and for the pension fund audit to be separate from the audit of the Council's accounts.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 Under its terms of reference, it is the role of this Committee to "Review the annual report and the external auditor's report to those charged with governance."

2.2 It is the role of the Pension Committee to approve the Pension Fund annual report/accounts having considered whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and any issues raised by the external auditor from the audit.

2.3 The Independent Auditor's (KPMG) report to those charged with governance and the Pension Fund annual report for 2016/17, along with the covering report under which they will be taken to the Pension Committee for approval on 17 July 2017 are attached as Appendix 1.

2.4 The final audit of the 2016/17 Annual Report by the Council's (KPMG) has now been completed, and I am pleased to be able to report that the auditors will be issuing an unqualified "true and fair" audit opinion.

2.5 As in any year, a few presentational adjustments arising from normal audit work have been noted, discussed, and resolved as stated on page 10 of the report to those charged with governance. KPMG have not identified any control findings or recommendations in the course of 2016/17 audit that need to be reported to this Committee.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 In carrying out their responsibility for review, Members should consider:

- The findings made by the external auditors as a result of the 2016/17 accounts final audit;
- Whether there are any issues that Member might wish to bring to the attention of the Pension Committee when it meets to approve the Pension Fund Annual Report for 2016/17 on 17 July 2017.

KEVIN FOSTER
Chief Operating Officer

Contact Officer: Ola Owolabi, Head of Accounts and Pensions
Tel. No. 01273 482017
Email: Ola.Owolabi@eastsussex.gov.uk

Local Member(s): All

Appendices

1. Pension Committee report for approval on 17 July 2017