

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	EXTERNAL AUDIT – PROGRESS REPORT – JANUARY 2016		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	8 FEBRUARY 2016		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Neil Pitman	<b>Tel:</b> 0162 845139
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
NOT APPLICABLE	
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>	
<p>The purpose of this report is to provide the Governance Committee with an overview of the final position against the Council's 2014/15 audit plan, and the external auditors initial plans for the 2015/16 audit.</p> <p>The Sector Briefing is designed to summarise some of the current issues facing the Local Government sector and is for information only.</p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	
(i)	To note the Progress Report – January 2016
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	The Progress Report is a key mechanism in ensuring that the external audit is aligned with the Governance Committee's service expectations.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
2.	No alternative options considered
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
3.	The progress report has been discussed and agreed with senior officers within the Council.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
4.	None.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
5.	None.

<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</b>	
6.	External audit is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014 the National Audit Office's 2015 Code of Audit Practice, the Statement of Responsibilities issued by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd, auditing standards and other professional requirements.
<b>Other Legal Implications:</b>	
7.	None.
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
8.	None.

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	No
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	N/A
<b><u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u></b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	Progress Report – January 2016
2.	Local government audit committee briefing
<b>Documents in Members' Rooms</b>	
1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	No
<b>Privacy Impact Assessment</b>	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.	No
<b>Other Background Documents</b>	
<b>Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None