

DECISION-MAKER:	Audit Committee
SUBJECT:	External Audit – 2023/24 Audit Results Report
DATE OF DECISION:	12 February 2025
REPORT OF:	EY LLP (External Auditor)

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director Enabling Services & S151 Officer	
	Name:	Mel Creighton	Tel: 023 8083 2438
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Author:	Title	EY LLP	
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY
N/A
BRIEF SUMMARY
<p>Auditors are required by ISA 260 to communicate audit matters of governance interest to those charged with governance. The Audit Results Report, summarises the status of our audit and key findings from across the range of the auditor’s work and responsibilities under statute and the Code, in relation to the 2023/24 audit.</p> <p>As reported in our 27 November 2024 Audit Completion Report for the 2022/23 audit, we issued a disclaimed audit report on the Council’s financial statements for 2022/23 under the arrangements to reset and recover local government audit. We did not plan to rebuild the gaps in assurance during our work for 2023/24. Therefore, the 2023/24 audit will be disclaimed as a result of the decision not to undertake the 2022/23 audit resulting in the 2022/23 disclaimed audit report. This leads to not having full assurance over the brought forward balances from 2022/23 (the opening balances), and a number of the 2023/24 in-year movements alongside some closing balances. We also do not have assurance over the 2022/23 comparative amounts disclosed in the 2023/24 financial statements.</p> <p>We have also experienced difficulties completing the planned programme of work for the 2023/24 audit where the Council have not been able to provide sufficient and appropriate support for the accounts within the time allocated to the audit. Across a number of elements of the 2023/24 Accounts we have not been able to complete our audit procedures.</p> <p>Taken together with the requirement to conclude our work by the 2023/24 back stop date, the lack of evidence over these movements and balances mean we are unable to conclude that the 2023/24 financial statements are free from material and pervasive misstatement of the financial statements. We therefore anticipate issuing a disclaimed 2023/24 audit opinion.</p>
RECOMMENDATIONS:
(i) To note the 2023/24 Audit Results Report as attached

(ii)
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS
Please see summary above, with regards to the requirement to issue an Audit Results Report
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
None
DETAIL
See summary above and attached Audit Results Report
Consultation: None
Data Evidence: None
Procurement: None
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
Capital/Revenue : None
Property/Other: None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 • Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS: None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS: None

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	24 SCC Audit Results Report
2.	
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	N/A
2.	
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and	No

Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.		
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.		No
Other Background Documents		
Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
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.		
2.		