



Governance Committee

Item
9

24 November 2015

Report of	Assistant Chief Executive	Author	Steve Heath
Title	Annual Audit Letter		☎ 282389
Wards affected	Not applicable		

The Committee is invited to consider and note the contents of the 2014/15 Annual Audit Letter

1. Action required

- 1.1 To consider and note the contents of the 2014/15 Annual Audit Letter, and the notification of a variation to the final fee.

2. Reason for scrutiny

- 2.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations require the Council to consider the Annual Audit Letter.

3. Supporting information

- 3.1 The 2014/15 Annual Audit Letter summarises the conclusions and significant issues arising from Ernst & Young's 2014/15 audit of the council, and the way the Council uses its resources.
- 3.2 The letter advises of an increase of £2,670 to the scale fee to reflect additional audit work required around direct testing of figures from Colchester Borough Homes that are included within the Council's group accounts.

4. Strategic Plan references

- 4.1 The objectives and priorities of the Strategic Plan informed all stages of the budget process for 2014/15.

5. Publicity considerations

- 5.1 The Annual Audit Letter has been publicised on the Council's website, and a hard copy of the document is available at Council offices in line with statutory requirements.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The increase in the fee is expected to be a recurring cost. However, this can be contained within existing budgets.

7. Other Standard References

- 7.1 Having considered equality, diversity and human rights, health and safety, community safety and risk management implications, there are none that are significant to the matters in this report.