**AUDIT COMMITTEE – 26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**PART I - DELEGATED**

**14. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS – UPDATE**

(DoF)

1. **Summary**

1.1 This report gives an update on the appointment of the Council’s external auditor from financial year 2018/19.

2. **Details**

2.1 At its meeting in November last year, this committee approved and recommended to Council the use of the Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) to appoint the Council’s external auditors from 2018/19. This was ratified and agreed at Council in December 2016.

2.2 This was confirmed to PSAA and they have since proposed that the external auditors for this Council will be Ernst and Young LLP (EY). The PSAA Board will consider all proposed auditor appointments at its meeting on 14 December 2017, and will write to the Council as soon as possible after the meeting to confirm the auditor appointment. A report will be brought to this committee asking them to approve the appointment following formal notification.

2.3 The Director of Finance has no objections to EY being appointed as the Council’s external auditors from 2018/19.

3. **Options/Reasons for Recommendation**

3.1 The recommendation enables the Committee to note the provisional appointment of EY as the Council’s external auditors from 2018/19.

4. **Policy/Budget Implications**

4.1 The recommendations in this report are within the Council’s agreed policy and budgets.

5. **Legal, Equal Opportunities, Staffing, Environmental, Community Safety, Customer Services Centre and Website Implications**

5.1 None specific.

6. **Financial Implications**

6.1The fees for the annual accounts audit will be included in future budgets.

7. **Risk Management Implications**

7.1 There are no risks associated with the decision members are being asked to take.

8. **Recommendation**

8.1 That the Committee notes the provisional appointment of EY and will be asked to formally approve this appointment at a future committee.

Report prepared by: Bob Watson – Head of Finance

**Background Papers:**  Audit Committee Agenda Item 10 on 22 November 2016.