

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: The Chair and Members of the Combined Authority
Audit Committee

Meeting: 3 November 2015

Authority/Authorities Affected: Combined Authority/All Districts

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: No

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY FINAL ACCOUNTS 2014/15

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Audit Committee with an update of the final accounts audit performed by our external auditors, KPMG.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Audit Committee is recommended to note the external auditors report and opinion upon their audit of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority final accounts for 2014/15.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The audit of the final accounts was completed within the statutory timetable and the accounts together with the auditors annual report on their findings was presented to the Combined Authority for approval at their meeting of 21 September 2015. A copy of KPMG's report on their audit is attached as Appendix A for information. Our auditors provided an unqualified opinion on the accounts.
- 3.2 In addition to the above report, KPMG also provide an Annual Audit Letter, which provides a summary of the results of the audit for 2014/15. This is attached as Appendix B.
- 3.3 The Annual Audit Letter summarises the key findings arising from the audit via a headlines section, together with a list of key issues and any recommendations to improve working papers etc; a summary of reports issued and finally an analysis of their fee arrangements for 2014/15. With regard to the audit fees for 2014/15, these have risen as a consequence of the following:

- Additional work associated with restating opening balances £786
- Audit of Whole of Government Accounts return (new task for 2014/15) £4,395
- Reviewing the objection to the accounts by an elector £4,755

In total these have added a further £9,936 to the agreed audit fee for 2014/15.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

4.1 Financial

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

4.2 Human Resources

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

4.3 Physical Assets

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

4.4 Information Technology

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

5. RISKS AND MITIGATION

By accepting the auditor's recommendations in their Audit letter, the risks associated with future audit opinions is mitigated.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

7. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

There are no direct issues arising from this report.

8. CONCLUSION

The Audit Committee is requested to note the Annual Audit Letter for 2014/15, and the increase in the audit fees.

JOHN FOGARTY
Treasurer

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Appendices:

A: KPMG's Report to those charged with governance (ISA 260)

B: KPMG's Annual Audit Letter 2014/15

Background Documents:

None