

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**PUBLIC REPORT**

Report to:	AUDIT COMMITTEE
Report of:	Corporate Director – Finance & Governance
Date of Decision:	29 January 2019
Subject:	AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS – PROGRESS REPORT
Wards affected: All	
1	Purpose
1.1	At its meeting on 30 July 2018, Members considered the External Auditor's Audit Findings Report and the draft Annual Audit Letter following the audit of the Council's financial statements for 2017/18.
1.2	The External Auditor made a number of recommendations within the Audit Findings Report for management to consider. These recommendations were in addition to the recommendations made under Section 24 of The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 that were considered by Council at its meeting on 11 September 2018.
1.3	The management responses to the External Auditor's recommendations were considered by this committee at its meetings on 25 September 2018. This report provides a progress update on the implementation of the management actions proposed.
2	Decisions recommended:
	Members are recommended to:
2.1	Note the progress in implementing management actions, attached as Appendix 1, to address the recommendations set out by the External Auditor in his Audit Findings Report issued in July 2018
2.2	Seek updated reports to future meetings of this committee on the continued progress in implementing the management actions proposed.

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3 Compliance Issues:

- 3.1 Are Decisions consistent with relevant Council Policies, Plans or Strategies?:
The coverage of the management actions in response to the Audit Findings Report recommendations are consistent with the policy framework and budget.
- 3.2 Relevant Ward and other Members/Officers etc. consulted on this matter:
The Chair of the Committee has been consulted.
- 3.3 Relevant legal powers, personnel, equalities and other relevant implications (if any):
The work of the external auditors is governed by the Code of Practice issued by the National Audit Office in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
- 3.4 Will decisions be carried out within existing finances and resources?
Yes
- 3.5 Main Risk Management and Equality Impact Assessment Issues (if any):
The Audit Findings Report includes details on activities where the External Auditor has identified that the Council can make improvements or reduce risks in its operations. This report provides a response on the progress in addressing the recommendations made.

4 Relevant background/chronology of key events:

- 4.1 The Audit Findings Report was considered by this committee on 30 July 2018. At the time of reporting to this committee, there had been no time to consider the management responses to the recommendations set out in the Audit Findings Report.
- 4.2 Management responses to the recommendations set out in the Audit Findings Report were considered by this committee at its meeting on 25 September 2018. This report sets out the current progress in addressing the issues raised in the recommendations.
- 4.3 Further reports will be provided to this committee setting out the additional progress in implementing the proposed activity in response to the recommendations set out in the Audit Findings Report.

Signature:

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Clive Heaphy, Corporate Director – Finance & Governance

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Progress update on Response to Audit Findings Report
Recommendations