

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL****PUBLIC REPORT**

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>AUDIT COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Council Management</b>
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	<b>15 February 2022</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR 2023-28</b>
<b>Wards affected: All</b>	
<b>1 Purpose</b>	
1.1	To inform the Audit Committee of the Council's decision regarding the procurement route for appointing an external auditor for the five financial years 2023/24 to 2027/28.
1.2	Full Council on 1 February 2022 considered the options and passed a motion to opt-into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors. The Full Council report is attached as an Appendix to this report.
<b>2 Decisions recommended:</b>	
	Members are recommended to:
2.1	Note the Council's motion to opt-into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors.

**Contact Officer:** Rebecca Hellard  
**Telephone No:** 0121 303 2950  
**E-mail address:** [rebecca.hellard@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.hellard@birmingham.gov.uk)

**Contact Officer:** Mohammed Sajid  
**Telephone No:** 0121 303 3313  
**E-mail address:** [mohammed.sajid@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:mohammed.sajid@birmingham.gov.uk)

### **3 Compliance Issues:**

- 3.1 Are Decisions consistent with relevant Council Policies, Plans or Strategies?  
The Council has a statutory duty to appoint an external auditor.
- 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. External Audit is a statutory function that needs to be procured. The national collective should offer the best route to achieving Value for Money
- 3.5 Main Risk Management and Equality Impact Assessment Issues (if any):  
As detailed in the Appendix.

### **4 Relevant background/chronology of key events:**

- 4.1 The current auditor appointment arrangements cover the period up to and including the audit of the 2022/23 accounts. The Council opted into the 'appointing person' national auditor appointment arrangements established by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for the period covering the accounts for 2018/19 to 2022/23.
- 4.2 Councils have options to arrange their own procurement and make the appointment themselves or in conjunction with other bodies, or they can join and take advantage of the national collective scheme administered by PSAA.
- 4.3 Full Council on 1 February 2022 considered the options and passed a motion to opt-into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors. The Full Council report is attached as an Appendix to this report.

### **Signature:**

.....  
**Rebecca Hellard, Director of Council Management**

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Full Council Report 1 February 2022 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR FROM 2023/24