

**REPORT TO:** Audit and Governance Board

**DATE:** 29 September 2021

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community & Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Resources

**SUBJECT:** External Audit of the 2020/21 Accounts (Verbal Update)

**WARD(S):** Borough-wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The Council's external auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP will provide the Board with a verbal progress update regarding their audit of the Council's 2020/21 year-end accounts.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the verbal update by the Council's external auditor Grant Thornton UK LLP, be received.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The Council's external auditor Grant Thornton UK LLP is currently undertaking their audit of the Council's 2020/21 year-end accounts and will provide the Board with a verbal progress update.

### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None.

### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None.

### **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

#### **6.1 Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified.

## **6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

## **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

None identified.

## **6.4 A Safer Halton**

None identified.

## **6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

## **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations require that the 2020/21 Statement of Accounts is certified by the External Auditor and published by 30 September 2021. As the audit will not be completed by this date, the Council will publish a notice at 30 September 2021 giving the reasons for the delay.

## **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None identified.

## **9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1 There are none under the meaning of the Act.