

**AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**28 March 2014**

**EXTERNAL AUDITOR - AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

**Report of the Head of Financial Resources**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To enable the Committee to consider and comment upon the external auditors' (Mazars) regular Audit Progress Report covering the period up to March 2014.
- 1.2 The report will be presented by Gavin Barker, the Council's Senior Engagement Manager.
- 1.3 The reports are a regular feature on this agenda and are aimed at providing updates of the progress made by our external auditor in meeting and fulfilling their role and responsibilities to the Council.
- 1.4 Members will be aware from the earlier item on the agenda that the Audit Strategy Memorandum 2013/2014 has been finalised which sets out the main risks identified by the auditor for both the Council's Statement of Accounts and Value for Money opinion for 2013/2014. These risks are however considered reasonable for an authority of our type and size.
- 1.5 The report also highlights emerging issues and developments that may be relevant and of interest to members in their role on the Audit and Governance Committee. These are detailed in pages 5 to 7 of their report.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the attached report.

