

TYNE & WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item 6

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: 26TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: AUDIT STRATEGY MEMORANDUM 2017/2018

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC FINANCE MANAGER

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 This report details the external auditors Audit Plan which notifies the Authority of the work that they are proposing to undertake in respect of the audit of the financial statements and the value for money conclusion for the financial year 2017/2018.

2.0 Audit Strategy 2017/2018

- 2.1 The attached Memorandum advises on the scope and approach of the auditors work together with the scale of fee for the 2017/2018 audit.
- 2.2 It is noted that Mazars are to hold their audit fees of £30,636 for the third year running for its audit services for the 2017/2018 audit work which is in accordance with the scale fees guidance provided by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA).
- 2.3 The Audit Strategy identifies the specific areas for the planned audit work based upon a risk assessment process and also includes their views on key judgements used within the financial statements and for the Value for Money conclusion. The Memorandum document sets out the key significant risk areas that have been identified for 2017/2018 and are detailed in Section 4 for the Financial Statements and in Section 5 for the Value for Money Conclusion. These risks have been discussed with senior officers and are viewed as typical for an organisation of this size and type.
- 2.4 The document also sets out the protocol the auditors will follow in completing their planned work by providing an audit timeline of key phases of their work and also sets out their proposed methods of communication at each stage.
- 2.5 The auditors will be in attendance to outline the content of the document and to answer any questions.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 The Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.

