



Integration Joint Board
Audit and Risk Management Committee

21st June 2018

This Report relates to
Item 10 on the Agenda

Quarterly Update Report from Chief Finance Officer

(Paper presented by Katy Lewis)

For Scrutiny and Review

Approved for Submission by	Katy Lewis, Chief Finance Officer
Author	Katy Lewis, Chief Finance Officer
List of Background Papers	None
Appendices	Appendix 1 - Audit Scotland Best Value Guidance Appendix 2 – Audit Scotland Good practice note on improving the quality of local authority annual accounts

SECTION 1: REPORT CONTENT

Title/Subject: Quarterly Update from Chief Finance Officer
Meeting: Audit and Risk Management Committee
Date: 21st June 2018
Submitted By: Katy Lewis, Chief Finance Officer
Action: For Scrutiny and Review

1. Introduction

- 1.1 An update is provided to Audit and Risk Committee on a quarterly basis to reflect activity in the previous quarter and to update on a range of technical matters.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Audit and Risk Management Committee is asked to:

- **Scrutinise and review the Chief Finance Officer Quarterly Report and the updates provided.**

3. Background

- 3.1 As part of the reporting to Audit and Risk Committee the Chief Finance Officer provides a quarterly written update to Audit and Risk Committee. The activity report provides an update on a range of technical matters.

4. Main Body of the Report

4.1 External Auditors Fees

Grant Thornton were appointed as the external auditor for Dumfries and Galloway's Health and Social Care Partnership Board. This appointment is for the financial years 2016/17 to 2020/21. The lead auditor is Joanne Brown who attends the Audit and Risk Committee meetings as requested by the Committee. The final audit fee for 2017/18 has been confirmed as £24,000 which has increased from £17,000 for 2016/17. Fees are set by Audit Scotland.

4.2 Chief Finance Officer Network

A Chief Finance Officer network has been established on a national basis which looks to develop Good Practice across Integration Boards on financial matters and

to develop and discuss technical issues as they arise. This meeting occurs on a six weekly basis and will be attended where possible by the Chief Finance Officer. The agenda from last month's meeting included:

- Budget process for 2018/19
- Carers Act
- Care home fees/ contract
- Scottish Living Wage
- Budget setting 2017/18
- Hosted and set aside budgets
- Annual Accounts and Audit Process
- Review of financial returns/accounts
- Audit Scotland Best Value Guidance (attached at **Appendix 1** for info)

4.3 Technical Bulletin Summary

On a quarterly basis, Audit Scotland publish guidance to both External Auditors and Public Sector bodies which is intended to provide a composite of technical developments that are relevant to Auditors' responsibilities and provide guidance on any emerging issues.

These Technical Bulletins offer coverage across Local Authority, Central Government, Health, Further Education and Cross-sectoral. All publications are made available on the Audit Scotland website which can be found using the following link:

http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/um/tb_2018_1.pdf

4.4 There are no specific IJB issues highlighted in the report.

4.5 The Local Authority Scotland Accounts Advisory Committee (LASAAC) has provided updated guidance on accounting for the integration of health and social care, as published on the CIPFA website at the link below:

[Accounting for Integration - Minor updates to LASAAC guidance for 2017/18 accounts](#)

4.6 Good Practice Note on Annual Accounts

Audit Scotland has issued further guidance on how to improve the quality of the accounts for Integration Joint Boards. This guidance has been reviewed and any relevant changes incorporated into the accounts. A review of the performance and strategic narrative has been undertaken by the Chief Finance Officer in preparing the draft accounts. A copy of this guidance is included in **Appendix 2**.

SECTION 2: COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

5. Resource Implications

5.1. There are no financial implications identified.

6. Impact on Integration Joint Board Outcomes, Priorities and Policy

6.1. Not applicable.

7. Legal & Risk Implications

7.1. Not applicable.

8. Consultation

8.1. The Chair of the IJB Audit and Risk Committee and the Chief Officer are provided with updates on a regular basis.

9. Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment

9.1. Not applicable.

10. Glossary

IJB	Integration Joint Board
CIPFA	The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
LASAAC	The Local Authority Scotland Accounts Advisory Committee