Title: Annual Audit Letter 2016/17

Report of the Chief Operating Officer

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Wards Affected: All | Key Decision: No
Report Author: Charles Medley | Contact Details: E-mail: Charles.medley@kpmg.co.uk

Accountable Director: Kathy Freeman, Director of Finance

Summary:

This report summarises the key findings from the 2016/17 external audit of the Council, which covered the 2016/17 Financial Statements and Value for Money conclusion. An unqualified opinion was issued in respect of the accounts and KPMG were satisfied that the Council had satisfactory arrangements in place to secure value for money. All the issues in the letter have been previously reported. The key recommendations are listed in appendix 1 of the report.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the contents of this report.

1. Introduction and Background

1.1. The Independent Auditors, KPMG, annual audit letter 2016/17 sets out for the benefit of those charged with governance (in the case of London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Public Accounts and Audit Select Committee), the outcome from KPMG’s audit work at the Council in relation to the 2016/17 audit year. Although it is addressed to Members of the Council, it is also intended to communicate key messages to key stakeholders, including members of the public, and is placed on the Council’s website.

1.2. An unqualified conclusion on the Council’s arrangements to secure value for money was issued. The same conclusion also applied on the Council’s financial statements.

2. Financial Implications

2.1. Other than the audit fees mentioned in the Audit Plan, there are no financial implications arising from the report.
3. Legal Implications

3.1. The financial administration of a local authority is set out in statute as mentioned in the main body of this report. The Annual Audit letter does not in itself identify any matters of specific legal concern.

4. Recommendation

4.1. PAASC is asked to note the contents of the Audit Plan.

5. Appendix

5.1. Appendix 1 – KPMG Annual Audit letter 2016-17