
ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2016/17

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Stephen Harker,
Efficiency and Resources Portfolio**

**Responsible Director – Paul Wildsmith,
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources**

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To present the Annual Audit Letter for 2016/17.

Summary

2. The Annual Audit Letter (**Appendix**) provides a high level summary of the results from the 2016/17 audit work undertaken by Ernst and Young LLP (EY), the Council's external auditors, for the benefit of Members and other interested stakeholders.
3. The Letter will be presented at the meeting by a representative from EY.
4. The Letter confirms the Council's accounts give a true and fair view for the year ending 31 March 2017 and that the Council have put in place proper arrangements to secure value for money in uses of its resources.

Recommendation

5. It is recommended that the Annual Audit Letter be noted.

Reasons

6. The recommendation is supported to enable Cabinet to receive the results of the external audit work carried out.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources

Background Papers

Annual Audit Letter 2016/17

Peter Carrick: Extension 5401

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| S17 Crime and Disorder | There are no specific issues which relate to crime and disorder. |
| Health and Well Being | There is no specific health and well being impact. |
| Carbon Impact | There is no specific carbon impact. |
| Diversity | There is no specific diversity impact. |
| Wards Affected | All wards are affected equally. |
| Groups Affected | All groups are affected equally. |
| Budget and Policy Framework | This report does not affect the budget or policy framework. |
| Key Decision | This is not a key decision. |
| Urgent Decision | This is not an urgent decision. |
| One Darlington: Perfectly Placed | There is no specific relevance to the strategy beyond a reflection on the Council's governance arrangements. |
| Efficiency | The External Auditors concluded that the Council had put in place proper arrangements to secure value for money in its use of resources. |
| Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers | This proposal does not affect Looked After Children and Care Leavers |