



# Audit Committee



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<b>Report for:</b>	Audit Committee
<b>Title of report:</b>	2023-24 External Auditor's Year End Report to Audit Committee
<b>Date:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>Report on behalf of:</b>	Councillor Michela Capozzi, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Commercial Services
<b>Part:</b>	I
<b>If Part II, reason:</b>	N/A
<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix A External Auditor's 2023-24 Year End Report to Audit Committee.
<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:</b>	None

## Report Author / Responsible Officer

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<b>Corporate Priorities</b>	Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery
<b>Wards affected</b>	All
<b>Purpose of the report:</b>	1. To provide Audit Committee with the External Auditor's Year End Report for 2023-24
<b>Recommendation to the decision maker:</b>	1. To note the contents of the External Auditor's Year End Report for 2023-24.

<b>Period for post policy/project review:</b>	An update on progress against the external audit programme is brought to committee on a regular basis.
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**1 Background**

The Year End Report 2023-24 (Appendix A) is produced by the Council’s external auditors KPMG. The report presents the observations arising from the audit of the Council’s 2023-24 published accounts to those charged with governance to oversee the financial reporting process. Audit Committee holds this responsibility for Dacorum Borough Council.

**2 Audit Findings Report**

The report covers the following areas:

- Headline audit findings
- Areas of audit risk and audit approach
- Observations on the quality and timelines of information prepared by management
- Value for Money arrangements
- Independence and ethical considerations relating to the external auditor
- Details of fees charged by the external auditor
- Details of audit misstatement
- Auditing developments

Areas of audit testing outstanding are identified within the report.

KPMG will attend Audit Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 to present the report at Appendix A.

**3 Financial and value for money implications:**

The published accounts are an essential means by which the Council demonstrates its stewardship of the resources and accounts for its financial performance. The External Auditor’s Year End Report provides the external auditors observations on these accounts.

**4 Legal Implications**

None arising directly from the report. The Council has a statutory obligation to publish its audited accounts by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 under the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

**5 Risk implications:**

Set out at in Appendix A to this report.

**6 Equalities, Community Impact and Human Rights**

None arising directly from the report.

**7 Sustainability implications (including climate change, health and wellbeing, community safety)**

None arising directly from the report.

**8 Council infrastructure (including Health and Safety, HR/OD, assets and other resources)**

None arising directly from the report.

## **9 Conclusion**

The External Auditor's Year End Report sets out their key findings arising from the audit of the Council's 2023-24 accounts. Members are asked note the report.

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