SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Annual Return for the Year Ended 2020/21
Committee : Full Council
Date : 15 November 2021
Author : Estelle Sherry, Responsible Finance Officer

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1. Report Summary:

1.1. The Council's external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP, have completed their review of the Council's Annual Return, including the Annual Governance Statement, the Accounting Statements, Submission Schedules and other supporting documentation.
1.2. PKF Littlejohn LLP have certified that they have completed their review of the annual return, and discharged their responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2021. This is evidenced through their completion of Section 3 of the Annual Return – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2020/21 (attached at Appendix A).
1.3. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been published in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as amended by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (attached at Appendix B).

2. External Auditor Report and Certificate:

2.1. The External Auditor Report and Certificate 2020/21 for the year ended 31 March 2021 holds that:

"On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislative and regulatory requirements have not been met."

3. Recommendation:

It is recommended that Full Council:

3.1. Note the External Auditor Report and Certificate 2020/21.
3.2. Note the publication of the Notice of Conclusion of Audit on 28 September 2021.

4. **Background Papers:**

4.1. Appendix A – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2020/21
4.2. Appendix B – Notice of Conclusion of Audit (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

5. Implications:

5.1. **Financial:** As shown in this report
5.2. **Legal:** None in relation to this report
5.3. **Personnel:** None in relation to this report
5.4. **Environmental Impact:** None in relation to this report