

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Audit Committee

Date: 13/09/2022

Subject: Annual Audit Report 2020/21

Report of: Craig Tucker, Head of Finance

Responsible Director: Sukvinder Kalsi, Director of Finance

SUMMARY

This report presents the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham's 2020/21 Statement of Accounts, including the Pension Fund Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the content of the external auditor's 'Annual Audit Report 2020/21', including the auditor's findings, recommendations, and the Council's response to those recommendations (Appendix 1).
-

Wards Affected: All

H&F Values

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	The Annual Audit Report gives assurance that the Council has proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency, and effectiveness from their resources.

Financial Impact

This report presents the Annual Audit Report for noting and is wholly concerned with the management of council financial resources.

Contact Officer(s):

Name: Craig Tucker

Position: Finance Manager (Interim)

Email: Craig.Tucker@lbhf.gov.uk

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None.

Annual Audit Report 2020/21

1. The 2020/21 Annual Audit Report, to be noted by the Audit and Pensions Committee, is attached at Appendix 1.
2. This report is a new requirement of the National Audit Office and is completed by our external auditors, Grant Thornton.
3. Grant Thornton have not identified any significant weaknesses, or made any key recommendations, but have identified twelve opportunities for improvement, which are set out in the report
4. Grant Thornton have given the Council a chance to comment on the area for improvement. Senior Leadership Team (SLT), relevant heads of services, and senior finance officers have made comments, which have been incorporated into the report.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Annual Audit Report 2020/21