

**Warwickshire Joint Audit and Standards Committee Report Summary**

**Meeting Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Subject:** External Audit Annual Letter for the PCC and Chief Constable 2019/20

**Contact details:** Alex Walling (GT) and Laurelin Griffiths (GT)

**Purpose of the Report:**

To consider and comment on Grant Thornton's Annual Audit Letter which provides a summary of the key external audit findings in respect of the 2019/20 financial year.

In summary, the Annual Audit Letter is similar to the audit findings report presented in October 2020 to this committee, but includes an update on the projected fees for 2019/20.

Grant Thornton have issued an unqualified opinion on the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts, and concluded that their review of the Annual Governance Statements found them to be consistent with their understanding of the governance in place for the force and PCC, the audited financial statements and with the CIPFA code of practise. The annual audit letter also provides summary details on Grant Thornton's audit approach and findings in relation to the audit of the 2019/20 financial statements.

Grant Thornton also issued an unqualified opinion on the PCC and Force's arrangements to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their use of resources.

Grant Thornton's planned audit fee for the year was a total of £42,497 split across the PCC and force. Grant Thornton have proposed an increase in this to a new total of £51,042 to reflect increased demands and work, as set out on pages 11 and 12 of the report.

**Recommendation:**

The Audit Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the contents of the report.