

9 March 2015

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Audit Plan 2014/15

Report of: *Ernst & Young*

Wards Affected: *None*

This report is: *Public*

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Audit Plan sets out how Ernst & Young intend to carry out their responsibilities as the Council's External Auditor.
- 1.2 This plan summarises our initial assessment of the key risks driving the development of an effective audit for the Council, and outlines our planned audit strategy in response to those risks.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Members are requested to note the External Audit Plan 2014/15.**

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 The Audit Plan covers the work that is planned in order to provide the Council with:
- An audit opinion on whether the financial statements of Brentwood Borough Council give a true and fair view of the financial position as at the end of 31 March 2015 and of the income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
 - A statutory conclusion on the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

4. Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

- 4.1 The audit will consider several key inputs:
- Strategic, operational and financial risks relevant to the financial statements
 - Developments in financial reporting and financial standards
 - The quality of systems and processes.

- Changes in the business and regulatory environment.
- Management's views on all of the above.

4.2 The External Audit Plan 2014/15 is attached in Appendix A.

5. Reasons for Recommendation

5.1 The Audit Plan will inform the statutory audit opinion.

6. Reference to Corporate Plan

6.1 Good financial management underpins all priorities within the Corporate Plan.

7. Implications

Financial Implications

Name & Title: Jo-Anne Ireland, Director of Strategy and Corporate Services

Tel & Email 01277 312712 / jo-anne.ireland@brentwood.gov.uk

7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Chris Potter, Monitoring Officer

Tel & Email 01277 312860 / christopher.potter@brentwood.gov.uk

7.2 None.

8. Appendices to this report

- Appendix A – Audit Plan

Report Author Contact Details:

Name: Jo-Anne Ireland

Telephone: 01277 312712

E-mail: jo-anne.ireland@brentwood.gov.uk