

28 November 2016

**External Audit - Progress Report - November
2016**

Report of the External Auditor

Purpose of the Report

1. This report requests that the Committee note the external auditor's progress report on the external audit of Durham County Council to date.

Background

2. The report sets out an update of the work completed by Mazars (external auditor) in respect of the following: -
 - Summary of Audit Progress
 - National Publications and other updates
3. The external auditor's report is attached at Appendix 2.

Summary of Audit Progress

4. The report confirms the completion of the 2015/16 audit.
5. Planning for the 2016/17 audit has commenced.
6. The report details that Mark Kirkham has taken over from Cameron Waddell as appointed auditor.

Emerging Issues and Developments

7. This section provides an update on other areas that members of the Committee may find useful.

Recommendation

8. The Committee is requested to note the contents of the external auditor's progress report.

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

No direct implications as a result of this report.

Staffing

None

Risk

None

Equality and Diversity/Public Sector Equality Duty

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and disorder

None.

Human rights

None

Consultation

None

Procurement

None

Disability Discrimination Act

None

Legal Implications

None