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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>AUDIT SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 6</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>25th SEPTEMBER 2013</b>	<b>CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF FINANCE and CORPORATE SERVICES</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>KEVIN STACKHOUSE (01283 595811)</b> <a href="mailto:Kevin.stackhouse@south-derbys.gov.uk">Kevin.stackhouse@south-derbys.gov.uk</a>	<b>DOC:</b> u/ks/final accounts 1213/audit opinion and papers/governance covering report Sept 13
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>ANNUAL REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: AS 05</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the report is considered and approved and any issues arising are referred to the Finance and Management Committee.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

- 2.1 For Grant Thornton as the Council's appointed auditors, to present their statutory annual report on the Council's accounts and financial statements for 2012/13.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 Grant Thornton's Report is attached. Audit Managers of Grant Thornton will attend the meeting and present the report to the Committee.
- 3.2 In summary, the report provides details on, together with any issues arising from, the Audit of the Council's annual accounts, financial statements and its internal control framework for 2012/13.
- 3.3 Consequently, the report provides and opinion on those accounts. Following consideration at this Committee, the accounts and financial statements themselves will be presented to the Finance and Management Committee later on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013 for formal adoption and publication.

### **Value for Money Assessment**

- 3.4 In addition, the report assesses overall value for money arrangements at the Council. Consequently, the Auditors will also provide an opinion on whether overall the Council provides value for money on a pure "yes or no" basis. This

takes into account the Council's performance on securing efficiency savings and its resilience to financial pressures.

### **Letter of Representation**

- 3.5 At the end of the Audit, the Council is required to provide a Letter of Representation. This is also attached to this Report. It requires the Council's Chief Finance (Section 151) Officer to provide assurances about the status of the accounts and financial statements.
- 3.6 It also confirms that the appropriate law, regulations and codes of practice have been complied with and that no irregularities exist that could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 3.7 Essentially, it confirms that there are no material issues or transactions known, other than those already reported and disclosed that could materially affect the accounts for 2012/13.
- 3.8 Following this and subject to any issues raised, the Director of Finance will officially sign the letter to finalise this particular part of Audit work for the year.

### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 None directly.

### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

- 5.1 None directly.

### **6.0 Community Implications**

- 6.1 None directly.

### **7.0 Background Papers**

None