

Agenda item 4

Report title: 2019/20 Audit Completion Report for the Essex Pension Fund		AGS/89/20
Report to: Audit, Governance and Standards Committee		
Report author: Nicole Wood, Executive Director, Finance and Technology		
Date of meeting: 30 November 2020		For: Noting
Enquiries to: Nicole Wood, Executive Director, Finance and Technology email nicole.wood@essex.gov.uk Tel. 07946 705816 or Samantha Andrews, Investment Manager email Samantha.andrews@essex.gov.uk Tel. 03330 138501		
Divisions affected: All Essex		

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present BDO's 2019/20 Audit Completion Report for the Essex Pension Fund, as appended.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 None – the report is for information only.

3. Background and proposals

- 3.1 The responsibilities of auditors are derived from statute, principally the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and from the National Audit Office (NAO) Code of Audit Practice 2015.
- 3.2 The NAO Code of Audit Practice requires BDO to report to those charged with governance on the work they have carried out to discharge their statutory audit responsibilities.
- 3.3 BDO regard Essex County Council's Audit, Governance and Standards Committee as the member forum ultimately responsible for the governance of the Essex Pension Fund. However, BDO also report their findings to the Essex Pension Board ahead of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee meeting.
- 3.4 The attached report summarises the findings from the 2019/20 audit which is substantially complete. It includes the messages arising from BDO's audit of the Essex Pension Fund's financial statements.
- 3.5 BDO welcome the opportunity to discuss this report with the Committee.

4. Policy context and Outcomes Framework

- 4.1 The Audit Completion Report presents BDO's opinions on the financial statements of Essex Pension Fund.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications associated with this report.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

7. Staffing and other resource implications

- 7.1 There are no staffing or other resource implications associated with this report.

8. Equality and Diversity implications

- 8.1 There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report.

9. List of appendices

- 9.1 Essex Pension Fund Audit Completion Report for 2019/20.

10. List of Background Papers

- 10.1 None.