

<b>Report title:</b> 2017/18 Audit Results Report for Essex County Council	
<b>Report to Audit, Governance and Standards Committee</b>	
<b>Report author:</b> Margaret Lee - Executive Director for Corporate and Customer Services	
<b>Date of meeting:</b> 30 July 2018	<b>For:</b> Noting
<b>Enquiries to Margaret Lee</b> <i>Executive Director, Corporate and Customer Services</i> <b>Tel. No:</b> 03330 134558	
<b>Divisions affected:</b> All Essex	

## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present Ernst and Young's 2017/18 Audit Results Report for the Council, 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.
- 3.2 The NAO Code of Audit Practice requires Ernst and Young to report to those charged with governance – the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee – on the work they have carried out to discharge their statutory audit responsibilities.
- 3.3 The attached report summarises the findings from the 2017/18 audit of the Council, which is substantially complete. The report includes the messages arising from the audit of the Council's financial statements and the results of the work undertaken to assess our arrangements to secure value for money in our use of resources.
- 3.4 Ernst and Young welcome the opportunity to discuss this report with the Committee.

#### **4. Policy context and Outcomes Framework**

- 4.1 The Audit Results Report presents Ernst and Young's opinions on the Council's Statement of Accounts and on its arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 4.2 The Statement of Accounts provides a financial representation of activities against the Organisation Strategy.

#### **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 2017/18 Audit Results Report for Essex County Council

#### **10. List of Background Papers**

- 10.1 None