

**Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham, Executive Director of Resources**

Report to:	<b>Audit Committee</b>
Date:	<b>25 September 2023</b>
Subject:	<b>External Audit Strategy Memoranda – Lincolnshire County Council and Lincolnshire Pension Fund 2022/23</b>

**Summary:**

Our external auditors, Mazars LLP, present their 2022/23 Audit Strategy Memoranda for Lincolnshire County Council and the Lincolnshire Pension Fund. This covering report briefly summarises the content of these documents.

**Recommendation(s):**

The Executive Director of Resources recommends that the Audit Committee considers the two external audit documents and identifies any further information or actions that may be required.

## 1. Background

1.1 Our external auditors, Mazars LLP, have prepared two Audit Strategy Memoranda setting out their approaches to this year's audit work on both Lincolnshire County Council's main accounts and on the Lincolnshire Pension Fund's accounts. The purpose of these documents is to summarise for this Committee the audit approaches, the significant audit risks and areas of key judgements and details of the audit teams. These memoranda are usually presented in March of each year, before the audit work has started, and the delay this year is due to the fact that the 2021/22 accounts were still in progress before and after 31 March 2023.

1.2 The Audit Strategy Memoranda each include the following main themes:

- An overview of the audit and its elements.
- The audit engagement team.
- The audit scope, approach and timeline.
- Significant risks and areas of key judgements for this year.
- Audit fees.
- Auditor independence.
- Materiality.
- Communications with the those charged with governance.

1.3 The Lincolnshire County Council document also includes information on the audit of value for money.

1.4 The external auditors welcome the opportunity to interact with Members of the Audit Committee and will be presenting their two documents at the meeting.

## **2. Conclusion**

2.1 The Audit Strategy Memoranda provide detail on how the external auditors expect to conduct this year's audit work. They provide members of the Audit Committee with an initial overview of the audit work and an opportunity to ask questions about the contents of the two documents.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Risks and Impact Analysis**

N/A

## **4. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Lincolnshire County Council Audit Strategy Memorandum 2022/23
Appendix B	Lincolnshire Pension Fund Audit Strategy Memorandum 2022/23

## **5. Background Papers**

No Background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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