

ED/SR

7 September 2018

Mr Stephen Hay
Chair – Integration Joint Board
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Dear Mr Hay

ASSURANCES PROVIDED BY PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

At the meeting of Perth & Kinross Council Scrutiny Committee on 13 June 2018 the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2017/18 was approved for inclusion in the 2017/18 Unaudited Annual Accounts. The AGS provides assurance as to the effectiveness of the Council's governance framework and in particular the system of internal control.

The AGS provides an opportunity to review the Council's rules, resources, systems, processes, culture and values to make sure that its governance framework and in particular its system of internal control is:

- Legally compliant;
- Ethically sound; and
- Fit for purpose

Thereby enabling the Council to achieve its strategic objectives and provide high quality services that meet the needs of its communities, in an appropriate, efficient and affordable way. It is important therefore, that governance issues are identified systematically and comprehensively and reported in an open and transparent manner.

The Annual Governance Statement for 2017/18 has been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government and is required to be published as part of the Annual Accounts.

The Annual Governance Statement was audited as part of the 2017/18 Annual Accounts by the Council's external auditors, KPMG. In their Draft Annual Audit Report to Members and the Controller of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2018 they conclude that the AGS is "appropriate for the Council", the Council has "continued high standards of governance and accountability" and "has an effective governance framework".

The audit of the 2017/18 Annual Accounts is substantially complete and KPMG plan to issue an unqualified audit opinion following the anticipated approval of the Accounts at the meeting of the Audit Committee on 26 September 2018.

I trust that this is helpful to your Audit Committee.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Eric Drysdale
Chair - Perth & Kinross Council Audit Committee
Ward 12 Perth City Centre