

ED/SR

07 September 2021

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Cllr Callum Purves  
Chair – Audit & Performance Committee  
Perth & Kinross Integration Joint Board  
2 High Street  
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Dear Cllr Purves

### **ASSURANCES PROVIDED BY PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL**

At the meeting of Perth & Kinross Council Scrutiny Committee on 9 June 2021, the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2020/21 was approved for inclusion in the 2020/21 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 2020/21 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 is audited as part of the 2020/21 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 2021, KPMG conclude that the "Council's governance arrangements operate effectively" and "the Annual Governance Statement shows an appropriate and accurate reflection of the governance arrangements at the Council".

The audit of the 2020/21 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 20 September 2021.

I trust that this is helpful to your Audit and Performance Committee.

Yours sincerely

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