

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	Audit, governance and standards committee
<b>Date:</b>	5 September 2024
<b>Report title:</b>	Auditor's annual report on Southwark Council 2022-23
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>	All
<b>Classification:</b>	Open
<b>Reason for lateness (if applicable):</b>	N/A
<b>From:</b>	Strategic Director of Finance

## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the audit, governance and standards committee note the external auditor's annual report for 2022-23, as attached at Appendix A.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the external auditor's opinion on Southwark Council's financial sustainability, governance, and arrangements for improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in 2022- 23.

### **Policy framework implications**

3. This report is not considered to have direct policy implications.

### **Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts**

#### **Community impact statement**

4. This report and the accompanying accounts are not considered to have a direct impact on local people and communities. However, good financial management and reporting arrangements are important to the delivery of local services and to the achievement of outcomes.

#### **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement**

5. This report is not considered to contain any proposals that would have a significant equalities impact.

#### **Health impact statement**

6. This report is not considered to contain any proposals that would have a significant health impact.

### **Further guidance**

7. None required.

### **Climate change implications**

8. This report is not considered to contain any proposals that would have a significant impact on climate change.

### **Resource implications**

9. If there are direct resource implications in this report, such as the payment of fees, these will be met from existing budget provision.

### **Consultation**

10. There has been no consultation on this report.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

11. None required.

### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Department of Finance files	Finance Department, Second Floor, Tooley Street	Amarjit Uppal 0207 525 4578

### **APPENDICES**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>
Appendix A	Auditor's Annual Report on Southwark Council 2022-23

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Clive Palfreyman, Strategic Director of Finance	
<b>Report Author</b>	Joanne Brown; Grant Thornton UK LLP	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	5 August 2024	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and Assurance	No	N/A
Strategic Director of Finance	N/A	N/A
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	5 August 2024	