

## **Blaby District Council**

### **Audit and Corporate Governance Committee**

**Date of Meeting**      28 April 2025  
**Title of Report**      **Grant Certification 2020/21**  
**Report Author**      Finance Group Manager

#### **1. What is this report about?**

- 1.1 The report enables Members to be presented with the external auditors of the 2021/22 Accounts, Ernst & Young (EY) Grant Certification Report in relation to the completion of the 2021/22 audit.
- 1.2 To draw attention to the key messages from the auditors, included within the Auditor's Report.

#### **2. Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 That the Grant Certification Report is approved.

#### **3. Reason for Decision(s) Recommended**

- 3.1 The Audit and Corporate Governance Committee should be made aware of the contents of any reports from the external auditors.

#### **4. Matters to consider**

##### **4.1 Background**

Alongside the annual audit of accounts, the auditors also undertake a review and carry out testing in relation the Council's Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant claim.

As members are aware since COVID-19, significant delays have been experienced across Local Authorities in the audits being undertaken and completed. The Council's 2021/22 Financial statement audit work was completed in November 2024, however at that stage the Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant claim audit was not complete.

The total value of the Housing Benefit Subsidy claim submitted to the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) was £9,191,870. Testing carried out by EY uncovered a small number of low value errors and the form was subsequently amended to £9,191,535, a decrease of £335.00.

Further details are set out in EY's Grant Certification report at Appendix A.

**5. Environmental impact**

- 5.1 No Net Zero and Climate Impact Assessment (NZCIA) is required for this report.

**6. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?**

- 6.1 The final audit fee following the additional testing undertaken has been confirmed as £18,850.

**7. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?**

7.1

Current Risk	Actions to reduce the risks
None	

**8. Other options considered**

- 8.1 None

**9. Other significant issues**

- 9.1 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

**10. Appendix**

- 10.1 Appendix A – Grant Certification Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**11. Background paper(s)**

None.

**12. Report author's contact details**

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