

## **Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority**

MEETING	Overview and Audit Committee
DATE OF MEETING	7 March 2018
OFFICER	David Sutherland, Director of Finance & Assets
LEAD MEMBER	Councillor David Watson
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Ernst & Young Audit Plan 2017/18
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	The report at Annex A sets out the plan of activity for the Authority's external auditors, Ernst & Young, for their work in relation to the financial year 2017/18.
ACTION	Noting.
RECOMMENDATIONS	That the Committee note the plan set out in Annex A.
RISK MANAGEMENT	The work carried out by Ernst & Young and their opinion of the Authority's financial integrity and ability to provide council taxpayers with value for money, is an essential part of the authority's governance arrangements and a key element of the annual Statement of Assurance.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	The external audit fee is included within the current budget.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	No direct impact.
CONSISTENCY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE DUTY TO COLLABORATE	No direct impact.
HEALTH AND SAFETY	No direct impact.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	No direct impact.
USE OF RESOURCES	Whilst there are no directly applicable matters as part of this report, a key element of the service provided by Ernst & Young is to provide an opinion on the financial integrity of the Authority which will include such issues as the arrangements for setting, reviewing and implementing strategic and operational objectives; performance monitoring, including budget monitoring; achievement of strategic objectives and best value performance indicators. This will include

	associated issues such as medium term financial planning, management of the asset base and the arrangements to promote and ensure probity and propriety.
PROVENANCE SECTION &  BACKGROUND PAPERS	None
APPENDICES	Annex A – Ernst & Young Audit Plan 2017/18
TIME REQUIRED	10 minutes
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Mark Hemming  mhemming@bucksfire.gov.uk  01296 744687