

**TITLE OF REPORT: External Auditor: Audit Progress Report**

**REPORT OF: Darren Collins, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources**

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**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 This report updates the Audit and Standards Committee on Mazars progress in delivering the 2015/16 audit and value for money conclusion.

**Background**

- 2 The report outlines:
  - 2015/16 summary of audit progress
  - North East Governance Forum
  - National publications and other updates.
- 3 The external auditor's report is attached at Appendix A.

**Recommendation**

- 4 The Committee is requested to note the contents of the external auditor's report.

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