

**AUDIT COMMITTEE  
Report No. 23-067**

**20 September 2023**

**External Auditor's Audit Plan for the 2022-2023 Year-End Audit**

**Key Contact: Randall Gerrior, Associate Director, Business Operations, (613) 596-8211 ext. 8881**

**PURPOSE:**

1. To seek Audit Committee approval of KPMG LLP's plan for the audit of the 2022-2023 Consolidated Financial Statements.

**STRATEGIC LINKS:**

2. An effectively functioning Audit Committee and approach to risk management is a key component of a focus on sustainably allocating resources as part of the District's strategic goal of maintaining a culture of social responsibility. Audit Committee's engagement with the external auditor establishes an understanding of the purpose, extent and limitations of the annual financial statements and provides an opportunity for members to consider the audit plan in relation to risk.

**CONTEXT:**

3. The *Education Act* requires that school boards prepare audited financial statements. The external auditor engages with Audit Committee as part of the audit planning process.

*Ontario Regulation 361/10, Audit Committees* requires that Audit Committee make a recommendation to the Board on the content of the external auditor's audit plan and on all proposed major changes to the plan.

**KEY CONSIDERATIONS:**

4. The *Education Act* requires that school boards prepare financial statements. Management is responsible for preparing and presenting the statements in accordance with requirements and standards which include Canadian public sector accounting standards. In addition, the financial statements must be audited by an external auditor who is licensed under the *Public Accountancy Act*. The purpose of the audit is to allow the external auditor to express an opinion on whether the District's financial statements are, in all material respects, in accordance with the established financial reporting framework.

Each year, the external auditor meets with Audit Committee and discusses the engagement letter and audit plan to ensure that members of Audit Committee are aware of the purpose, extent and limitations of the annual financial statement audit. The approach to the audit this year will include an assessment in compliance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 540, Auditing Accounting Estimates and Related Disclosures, increased scrutiny of management's accounting estimates will be undertaken.

The engagement letter and audit plan are attached as appendices A and B, respectively. The information presented in these documents assists committee members in understanding the audit process and financial statements.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

5. The cost of the year-end audit is provided for in the annual budget. The cost is expected to be \$105,000. Incremental work required by the new ARO Accounting Standard, the implications of the challenge of Bill 124 by public service unions and enhanced procedures relating to management's accounting estimates may result in additional costs. These costs will be billed at hourly rates established in the existing contract with KPMG LLP and will be managed within the District's approved budget.

## **COMMUNICATION/CONSULTATION ISSUES:**

6. The external auditor's attendance at the meeting provides the opportunity for members of Audit Committee to raise any issues or areas of concern that may need to be addressed in the audit. During the audit, the external auditor meets with various members of the senior management team including the Director of Education, Associate Director of Business Operations & CFO, and Superintendent of People, Culture and Leadership. In addition, Finance, Business and Learning Technologies and Facilities staff are consulted to obtain information necessary to form an audit opinion.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT KPMG LLP's plan for the audit of the 2022-2023 Consolidated Financial Statements be approved.

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Randall Gerrior  
Associate Director, Business Operations

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Pino Buffone  
Director of Education and  
Secretary of the Board

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix A – KPMG LLP Engagement Letter  
Appendix B – KPMG LLP Audit Planning Report