

Title: Statement of Accounts – Updated Audit Findings Report
Lead Officer: Mike Snow (01926 456800)
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Hales
Wards of the District directly affected: N/A

Summary

Further to the Audit Findings Report on the 2020/21 Accounts issued by the Council's external auditors to the last meeting of the Committee, Grant Thornton have now issued an updated report in the anticipation that they should be able to sign off the Accounts following the meeting of the Committee.

Recommendation(s)

- (1) That the Committee notes the 2020/21 Updated Audit Findings Report.
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1 Background/Information

- 1.1 Progress on the audit of the 2020/21 Statement of Accounts was reported to the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee in November. Since then, work on the audit has progressed. The auditors hope to be able to sign off the accounts following the December meeting of the Committee.
- 1.2 The Committee has already agreed that any changes required to the accounts are delegated to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee. The Committee also approved the Letter of Representation which will be sent to the auditors when they are ready to sign off the accounts.
- 1.3 Grant Thornton have also issued a Sector Update Report for the consideration of members of the Committee.

2 Alternative Options available to Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee

- 2.1 No alternative options are presented for consideration.

3 Consultation and Member's comments

N/A

4 Implications of the proposal

4.1 Legal/Human Rights Implications

- 4.1.1 N/A

4.2 Financial

- 4.2.1 No update to the detail reported to the November meeting of the Committee.

4.3 Council Plan

- 4.3.1 The Council Plan is designed to deliver the Vision for the District of making it a Great Place to Live, Work and Visit. To that end amongst other things the Plan

contains several Key projects.

4.3.2 The Council Plan has 3 strands, People, Services and Money, and each has an external and internal element to it, the details of which can be found on the Council's website.

4.3.3 The audited accounts support all strands of the Council Plan by way of confirming how the Council is using its resources.

4.4 **Environmental/Climate Change Implications**

4.4.1 N/A

4.5 **Analysis of the effects on Equality**

4.5.1 N/A

4.6 **Data Protection**

4.6.1 N/A.

4.7 **Health and Wellbeing**

4.7.1 N/A.

5 Risk Assessment

5.1 The closure of the Accounts continues to be a key project across the Council. This has had detailed action plans, which are closely monitored, and are designed to reduce the risks involved in closing the Accounts and producing the Audited Statement of Accounts.

6 Conclusion/Reasons for the Recommendation

6.1 The Committee are asked to agree the proposed recommendations.

Background papers:

Updated Audit Findings Report

Sector Update Report

Report Information Sheet

Please complete and submit to Democratic Services with draft report

Committee/Date	Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee, 8 December 2021	
Title of report	Statement of Accounts – Updated Audit Findings Report	
Consultations undertaken		
Consultee *required	Date	Details of consultation /comments received
Ward Member(s)		N/A
Portfolio Holder WDC & SDC *	29/11/2021	ClIr Hales
Financial Services *	29/11/2021	Andrew Rollins
Legal Services *	29/11/2021	Phil Grafton
Other Services		
Chief Executive(s)	29/11/21	Chris Elliott
Head of Service(s)	29/11/2021	Mike Snow
Section 151 Officer	29/11/2021	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	29/11/2021	Phil Grafton
CMT (WDC)	29/11/2021	
Leadership Co-ordination Group (WDC)		
Other organisations		
Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Ctte/Council?		Recommendation to :Cabinet / CouncilCommittee
Contrary to Policy/Budget framework		No
Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?		No
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?		No/Yes, Forward Plan item – scheduled for (date)
Accessibility Checked?		File/Info/Inspect Document/Check Accessibility