

REPORT TO: **AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

DATE: **25 NOVEMBER 2020**

TITLE: **AUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

LEAD OFFICER: **SIMON FREEMAN, DEPUTY TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND HEAD OF FINANCE & PROPERTY SERVICES (01279) 446228**

RECOMMENDED that:

- A** Upon consideration of the Auditor's Results Report earlier in the agenda, the Committee approves the latest 2018/19 Statement of Accounts presented as Appendix 1 to this report.
- B** The Committee delegates the approval of the final 2018/19 Statement of Accounts, should the latest accounts need amendment following the completion of audit work, to the Deputy to the Chief Executive and Head of Finance & Property Services in consultation with the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee.

BACKGROUND

1. The Statement of Accounts is an important part of the Council's overall financial control and reporting environment which must be presented to an appropriate Committee of the Council and approved to comply with the requirements of the accounting regulations.
2. The draft statement was published on the Council's website on 31 May 2019, has been available on the Council's website since that date and was available for public inspection between 3 June 2019 and 12 July 2019 inclusive.
3. The appointed External Auditor, BDO LLP, has been carrying out the annual audit since June 2019. By the time this Committee meets, the audit should be almost concluded with most issues resolved. The External Auditor will provide Members of the Committee with an update of progress in concluding the audit work.

IMPLICATIONS

Environment and Planning (Includes Sustainability)

None specific.

Author: Andrew Bramidge, Head of Environment and Planning

Finance (Includes ICT)

The production and reporting of the Annual Statement of Accounts is a statutory responsibility and, pending completion of the audit, the latest statements for 2018/19 are appended to this report.

Author: Simon Freeman, Deputy to the Chief Executive and Head of Finance & Property Services

Housing

None specific.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

None specific.

Author: Simon Hill, Head of Governance

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Audited Statement of Accounts 2017/18

Background Papers

All Final Accounts Working Papers held by Accountancy, which have been open to public inspection as required under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.