

REPORT TO **AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

DATE: **7 SEPTEMBER 2016**

TITLE: **AUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015/16**

LEAD OFFICERS: **SIMON FREEMAN – HEAD OF FINANCE**
(01279 446228)

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) **The Committee notes the 2015/16 Statement of Accounts presented as Appendix 1 to this report and refers any comments to the Cabinet;**
- 2) **The Committee notes that the audit of the accounts is to continue after the time of writing this report, and that the external auditor shall present an update to the meeting of this Committee.**

BACKGROUND

1. The Statement of Accounts are 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. Draft statements were produced by the required statutory deadline of 30 June 2016 and these have been available on the Council's website since that date.
3. The appointed external auditor, Ernst and Young LLP, has been carrying out the annual audit since July and the draft accounts have been available for public inspection.
4. The audit process has extended beyond the time of preparing this report with some residual issues to be examined. The external auditor will, as a result, provide Members of this Committee with an update of their progress in their concluding audit work.

IMPLICATIONS

Place (includes Sustainability)

None specific.

Author: **Graeme Bloomer, Head of Place**

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 2015/16 are appended to this report.

Author: **Simon Freeman, Head of Finance**

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: **Brian Keane, Head of Governance**

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.