

Report to: Audit and Governance Committee



Date of Meeting 20 February 2025

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Approval of the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts (Final)

Report summary:

The Council's Statement of Accounts for 2023/24 are presented to the Audit & Governance Committee for approval.

Also, members are asked to note the letters of representation to Grant Thornton in respect of the financial statements for 2023/24.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes ☒ No ☐

Policy Framework Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommendation:

To adopt the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts and delegated authority is given to the Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee and the Director of Finance (S151 Officer) to sign when all matters concluded.

That the letters of representation be approved and signed by the Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee and the Director of Finance (S151 Officer).

Reason for recommendation:

There is a legal requirement for the Council to approve the Council's Statement of Accounts, the Council has delegated this function to the Audit & Governance Committee.

Officer: John Symes, Finance Manager, jsymes@eastdevon.gov.uk, 01395 517413

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- ☐ Climate Action and Emergency Response
- ☐ Coast, Country and Environment
- ☐ Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- ☐ Communications and Democracy
- ☐ Economy
- ☒ Finance and Assets
- ☐ Strategic Planning
- ☐ Sustainable Homes and Communities
- ☐ Culture, Leisure, Sport and Tourism

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk;

Links to background information: [Statement of Accounts 2023/24](#)

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- ☒ A supported and engaged community
 - ☒ Carbon neutrality and ecological recovery
 - ☒ Resilient economy that supports local business
 - ☒ Financially secure and improving quality of services
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Report in full

1. Approval of the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts (Final)

- 1.1 These accounts, which include the Annual Governance Statement, are appended for consideration and approval.
 - 1.2 The unaudited draft Statement of Accounts for 2023/24 were signed off by the Council's S151 Officer and published in August 2024.
 - 1.3 The main highlights of these accounts are included in the Narrative Report by the Director of Finance (S151 Officer) which covers the main General Fund and Housing Revenue Account outturn variances against budget, and also the Capital Programme outturn against budget.
 - 1.4 The auditors have provided their disclaimed opinion for 2023/24 which are attached separately. Upon approval the disclaimed opinion will be incorporated into the Statement of Accounts to replace the blank page.
 - 1.5 Members are asked to approve the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts which reflect a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2024.
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Financial implications:

There are no direct financial implication arising from this report.

Legal implications:

The legal requirements for a statement of accounts is set out within the report otherwise there is nothing which requires comment.