

Report to: **Audit and Governance Committee**
Date of Meeting: 24 October 2019
Public Document: Yes
Exemption: None
Review date for release: None



Subject: **Statement of Accounts 2018/19 including Annual Governance Statement**

Purpose of report: The Council's Statement of Accounts for 2018/19 has now been audited and is attached for presentation to the Audit & Governance Committee for approval.

A report is contained on the Agenda from the Council's external auditors Grant Thornton detailing the work carried out and audit conclusion.

Recommendation: **To adopt the 2018/19 Statement of Accounts**

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

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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.

Equalities impact: Low Impact

Climate change: Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk

Links to background information:

- The Committee were updated on the reason for a delay in the Audit Opinion at their last meeting - [Report to Audit Governance July 2019 - late audit](#)
- [Statements of Account 2018/19](#)

Link to Council Plan: Continuing improving to be an outstanding council

1. Approval of 2018/19 Statement of Accounts

- 1.1 A report was presented to the June meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee explaining the delay in the ability for the Committee to approve the 2018/19 Statement of Accounts. The Committee should have adopted the Accounts before the 31st July deadline. Unfortunately the external audit had not been concluded or an opinion issued for members to consider.
- 1.2 The audit is now complete and Grant Thornton's report is contained on the agenda for members' consideration.
- 1.3 The Accounts, which include the Annual Governance Statement, is appended to this report for members' consideration and approval.
- 1.4 Members were presented at their last meeting an assessment of the Council's Going Concern status which is an underlying principle of the Accounts, this position is unchanged from that assessment in that the Council is a going concern.
- 1.5 The year-end financial outturn position for 2018/19 reported to [Cabinet in June 2019](#) has not changed through the preparation and Audit of Accounts.