

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	30 November 2020
Title of Report:	Statement of Accounts 2019/20
Lead Member:	Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)
Lead Strategic Director:	Andrew Hardingham (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Carolyn Haynes, Financial Controller
Contact Email:	carolyn.haynes@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	FIN/CH
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The Council's draft Statement of Accounts for year ending 31 March 2020 was prepared and approved ready for our external auditors by the Service Director for Finance on 28 August 2020.

The Accounts are in the process of being audited by Grant Thornton UK (GTUK) and are being presented to Audit Committee for approval. The Accounts and Audit Regulations require the accounts to be formally approved and published on or before 30 November 2020.

Grant Thornton UK (GTUK) will be providing an update on the audit progress at this committee.

Recommendations and Reasons

- I. To **approve** the Statement of Accounts for 2019/20 attached as Appendix A with the understanding that they are currently being audited by GTUK. Should any issues be identified during the GTUK audit and after the date of this committee, Members are asked to delegate the approval of the Statement of Accounts to the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, in consultation with the Service Director for Finance.
 - a. Reason: Statutory Requirement, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the accounts to be:
 - i. Considered by committee;
 - ii. Approved by committee resolution;
 - iii. Signed and dated by the person presiding at the committee.

Alternative options considered and rejected

None – It is a statutory requirement to produce and approve the Statement of Accounts.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Council's expenditure forms the basis on which the Corporate Plan can be delivered.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The 2019/20 final accounts will have implications on the Medium Term Financial Plan. The level of Working Balance and reserves will affect the level of funding available in future years and variations in service expenditure will also need to be reviewed to assess the effects on future years. However, it is important to note that the level of Reserves and Balances have not changed since the revenue outturn was reported to Cabinet and Council earlier in the year.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None directly arising in relation to the decision.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

N/A

Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	2019/20 Statement of Accounts (unaudited)							

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Andrew Hardingham (Service Director for Finance)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 19/11/2020											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) approved verbally Date approved: 19/11/2020											