

# Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	27 September 2021
Title of Report:	<b>Statement of Accounts 2020/21</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Nick Kelly (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Brendan Arnold (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Carolyn Haynes
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 2021 was prepared and approved by the Service Director for Finance on 31 July 2021 and was made available for our external auditors to start their audit review. .

The Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 are being presented to Audit and Governance Committee for approval. The Accounts and Audit Regulations require the accounts to be formally approved and published on or before 30 September 2021.

Grant Thornton UK (GTUK) will be providing an update on their review of the 2020/21 accounts and their audit progress at this committee.

## Recommendations and Reasons

- I. To **approve** the Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 attached as Appendix B with the understanding that they are currently being audited by GTUK. Should any issues be identified during the GTUK audit Members are asked to delegate the approval of the Statement of Accounts to the Chairperson of the Audit and Governance 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 2020/21 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.

**Financial Risks:**

The Statement of Accounts includes a high level summary of the Council's financial risks.

**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	Statement of Accounts 2020-21 Report							
B	2020/21 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)
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	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.						
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

**Sign off:**

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Brendan Arnold											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 15/09/2021											
Cabinet Member approval: <i>Approved verbally</i> Date approved: 15/09/2021											