

Date of meeting:	22 July 2019
Title of Report:	<b>Statement of Accounts 2018/19</b>
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:	<a href="mailto:carolyn.haynes@plymouth.gov.uk">carolyn.haynes@plymouth.gov.uk</a>
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 2019 was prepared and approved ready for our external auditors by the Service Director for Finance on 31 May 2019.

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 31 July 2019.

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

The report also details of the management responses to the 'Letter to Management' which was discussed at the Audit & Governance Committee on the 11 March 2019.

The report also includes the completed GTUK IT Audit Report for information.

## Recommendations and Reasons

1. To **approve** the Statement of Accounts for 2018/19 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, to be done before the 31 July 2019.
  - 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.
2. To **note** the 'Letter to Management' responses attached as Appendix B which were agreed with the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee prior to being sent to GTUK at the end of April 2019.
  - a. Reason: To inform members of the 'Letter to Management' responses submitted to GTUK

3. To **note** the contents of the GTUK IT Audit Report attached as Appendix C.
- Reason: For members to note the contents of the report and the management recommendations.

### 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 2018/19 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.

### 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	2018/19 Statement of Accounts (unaudited)							
B	Letter to Management 2018/19 Responses							
C	Information Technology General Controls Audit Report							

### 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											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 15/07/2019											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Mark Lowry, approved verbally Date approved: 15/07/2019											