

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE – 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

2014/15 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: FINANCE, AUDIT & INFORMATION GOVERNANCE (CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER)

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR LEE CARTER

PART A) SUMMARY REPORT

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the outcome of the audit of the Council's accounts for 2014/15 and presents the Statement of Accounts for approval.
- 1.2 The Statement of Accounts is prepared on an International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) basis as interpreted by the Local Government Accounting Code of Practice which continues to add a level of complexity.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, the Chief Financial Officer certified the draft statement of accounts prior to the 30 June. These were then presented to Audit Committee on the 30 June, made available for public inspection and provided to the external auditors to undertake the audit of accounts. As required by regulation, the final statement of accounts is now presented to members for approval, prior to publication. This Committee has delegated authority to approve the council's final audited Statement of Accounts.
- 1.4 KPMG, the Council's external auditors are expected to give the accounts an unqualified audit opinion and their Auditor's Report is included in the Statement of Accounts.
- 1.5 There are no financial adjustments required as a result of the audit and the outturn position remains as reported to Cabinet on 25 June 2015. The only changes identified are presentational which have been agreed and included in this final version.
- 1.6 As part of the statement of accounts process local electors may inspect the accounts and raise questions with the external auditor. Although the financial statements have been signed off, there are some elector queries which are still under review and we will not receive the audit certificate until these are concluded.
- 1.7 Following approval the Statement of Accounts will be published on the Council's web site.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members approve the 2014/15 Statement of Accounts attached at Appendix I.**
- 2.2 That delegated authority be granted to the Assistant Director: Finance, Audit & Information Governance to make any presentational changes required to the Statement of Accounts prior to publication.**
- 2.3 That members approve the updated (for minor presentational changes) Annual Governance Statement.**

3.0 SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Cooperative Council priorities?	
	Yes	Delivery of all cooperative council priorities depend on the effective use of available resources. Regular financial monitoring helps to highlight variations from plan.
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	No	
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	To publish audited accounts by the end of September 2015	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	The financial impacts are detailed throughout the report.
LEGAL ISSUES	No	The Statement of Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the 2011 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting and the 2011 Accounts and Audit Regulations.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	Borough Wide

PART B) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4.0 INFORMATION

- 4.1 The 2014/15 outturn position was reported to Full Council on the 25 June 2015. In accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, the Council is required to prepare formal Statement of Accounts in a prescribed format, following International Financial Reporting Standards. The Chief Financial Officer certified the draft statement of accounts at the end of June. These were then made available for public inspection and provided to the external auditors to undertake the audit of accounts.
- 4.2 The final overall underspend of £1.145m (-0.89% of net budget) is the same as previously reported to members in June.
- 4.3 A number of presentational changes have been made to the accounts during the course of the audit after discussion with KPMG. None of these has impacted on the General Fund Balance position previously reported.
- 4.4 The final statement of accounts including all agreed amendments is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.5 An unqualified audit report expected to be given by KPMG.
- 4.6 To comply with International Auditing Standards, the external auditor will also present the Annual Governance report to the Audit Committee which comments on the final accounts audit.

5.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

There is no further information to add.

6.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cabinet – Service & Financial Planning Report – 25 June 2015
Council – Service & Financial Planning Report – 9 July 2015

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

2014/15 Draft Statement of Accounts
2014/15 Outturn Report
General Ledger Reports
2014/15 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting
Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011

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