

Corporate Governance and Standards Committee Report

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Report of the Chief Financial Officer

Author: Vicky Worsfold, Financial Services Manager

Tel: 01483 444827

Email: Victoria.worsfold@guildford.gov.uk

Lead Councillor responsible: Joss Bigmore

Tel: 07974 979369

Email: joss.bigmore@guildford.gov.uk

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2018-19 Audited Statement of Accounts

Executive Summary

The terms of reference of the Corporate Governance and Standards Committee include approval of the statutory Statement of Accounts on behalf of the Council. The audited Statement of Accounts are attached at Appendix 1. The Audit Findings report, presented elsewhere on this agenda, covers the changes made to the accounts between the draft accounts, issued on 31 May 2019 and the audited accounts.

Recommendation to Committee

- (1) That the Committee approves the audited Statement of Accounts 2018-19, as set out in Appendix 1.
- (2) That the Chairman of the Committee be authorised to sign the official copy of the accounts to state they are approved.

Reasons for Recommendation:

- To approve the Statement of Accounts for 2018-19.
- To comply with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 the statutory Statement of Accounts requires approval by 31 July.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report presents the audited statutory Statement of Accounts 2018-19 for approval by the Committee.

2. Strategic Framework

- 2.1 Good financial management underpins the achievement of the Council's Corporate Plan.

3. Background

- 3.1 The terms of reference of the Corporate Governance and Standards Committee include approval of the statutory Statement of Accounts on behalf of the Council.
- 3.2 The external auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP, has completed the audit and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) has re-certified the Statement of Accounts.
- 3.3 The Audit Findings report, presented elsewhere on this agenda, covers the changes made to the accounts between the draft accounts, published on 31 May 2019, and the audited accounts. The audited accounts attached at Appendix 1 include any changes.
- 3.4 The external auditor intends to issue an unqualified opinion on the financial statements.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the Council or a committee must consider and approve the statement of accounts no later than 31 July. The Council has delegated this responsibility to the Corporate Governance and Standards Committee.
- 5.2 The Accounts and Audit Regulations also require the person presiding at the meeting to sign and date the statements that we must then publish, accompanied by the auditor's report, no later than 31 July.

6. Human Resource Implications

- 6.1 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The audit of the 2018-19 accounts is complete and the independent auditor intends to issue an unqualified opinion on the financial statements, which the CFO has re-certified in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

8. Background Papers

None

9. Appendices

Appendix 1: Statement of Accounts 2018-19