

Report To:	Audit Committee	Date:	24th July 2018
Heading:	AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18		
Portfolio Holder:	N/A		
Ward/s:	N/A		
Key Decision:	No		
Subject to Call-In:	No		

Purpose of Report

This report provides the Audit Committee with the outcome of the external audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2017/18 and to seek approval of the Statement. Subject to approval of the Statement by the Audit Committee, a copy of the audited accounts will be placed on the Council's website.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. That the findings of the Statement of Accounts audit are approved.**
- 2. That the audited Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 including the Annual Governance Statement are approved together with the associated Letter of Representation.**

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To comply with statutory and constitutional requirements.

Alternative Options Considered

(with reasons why not adopted)

There are no alternative options.

Detailed Information

Once approved, the audited Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 will be placed on the Council's website. The Letter of Representation follows this report. The unaudited Statement of Accounts is available on the Council's website via the following link:

<https://www.ashfield.gov.uk/media/4385/statement-of-accounts-2017-18-final-unaudited-310518-with-signatoriesdocx.pdf>

Amendments to the Statement of Accounts 2017/18

The audit resulted in some minor presentational changes being made to the accounts which required changes to Notes of the Accounts only. These changes had no impact on any of the primary financial statements i.e. Expenditure & Funding Analysis (EFA), Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement (CIES), Balance Sheet and Movement in Reserves Statement.

The changes made are as follows:

Statement of Accounting Policies

Minor wording changes were made to the Accounting Policies Notes; (3) Cash & Cash Equivalents, (15a) Operating Leases, (17) Property, Plant & Equipment and (23) Collection Fund to ensure they were in line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK (2017/18).

Financial Instruments

The Financial Instruments Table for long term liabilities included some short term loans which had to be reclassified.

Tangible Non Current Asset Valuations (Note 13)

In accordance with the CIPFA code the Property, Plant and Equipment revaluation table was restated to be shown on a cost rather than net book value basis.

Unadjusted Audit Differences

No material misstatements were identified during the audit. One immaterial audit difference was identified at a value of £41k in respect of Property, Plant and Equipment. This has not been corrected in the 2017/18 accounts and does not impact on the primary financial statements. The net book value of property, plant and equipment would remain the same, however the depreciation and impairment, and the gross book value would both increase by £41k.

Additional Information added to the 'Narrative Report'

The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017 requires a disclosure on the Council's website by the 31st July in respect of Trade Union Facility Time. At the suggestion of the External Auditors it was considered to be appropriate to include this information within the Narrative Report section of the Statement of Accounts. The following wording has therefore now been included:

There were 17 relevant trade union officials during 2017/18, all of whom spent between and 1% – 50% of their working hours on facility time. The cost of this represents 0% (0.00098%) of the total pay bill.

Time spent on paid trade union activities, as a percentage of total paid facility time hours was 0%.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Production of timely and accurately Statement of Accounts is a statutory requirement. Achievement of this reflects sound financial management supporting delivery of the Corporate Plan.

Legal:

This report enables the Council to present for approval the audited Statement of Accounts by 31st July 2018 in accordance with statute.

Finance:

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	As per the Statement of Accounts
General Fund – Capital Programme	As per the Statement of Accounts
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	As per the Statement of Accounts
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	As per the Statement of Accounts

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation

Human Resources:

N/A

Equalities:

N/A

Other Implications:

None

Reason(s) for Urgency

N/A

Reason(s) for Exemption

N/A

Background Papers

Statement of Accounts 2017/18
Draft ISA260 Report 2017/18

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