

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	APRC/20/14
MEETING	AUDIT & PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	19 NOVEMBER 2020
SUBJECT OF REPORT	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2019-20
LEAD OFFICER	Director of Finance & Resourcing (Treasurer)
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the final Statement of Accounts for 2019-20 be approved for publication.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>It was announced on 22 April 2020 that the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 would extend deadlines for preparation of accounts. The publication date for final, audited accounts moved from 31 July for Category 1 authorities and 30 September for Category 2 authorities to 30 November 2020 for all local authority bodies.</p> <p>The Committee considered the draft Statement of Accounts for 2019-20 at its meeting on 7 September 2020, at which point the external audit was complete apart from outstanding issues as highlighted in the draft audit findings report; in particular pension costs and liabilities. This issue has now been clarified and the accounts are re-presented to the Committee for approval.</p> <p>Despite the complications arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, this Authority was able to provide its draft financial statements to the auditors on 30 July 2020. It should be noted that, due to amended timescales for preparation of the accounts and audit process, some of this work was concurrent, which has given rise to a higher number of reportable issues in the accounts than would usually be expected. These are reported and explained in the external auditors report (found elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting).</p> <p>The final audited accounts are attached to this report at Appendix A. The Audit Findings Report associated with the Statement of Accounts for 2019-20 is also available elsewhere on this agenda.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	As indicated in the report.
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	An initial assessment has not identified any equality issues emanating from this report.
APPENDICES	Appendix A – Statement of Accounts 2019-20
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Audit & Performance Review Committee Minutes – 4 March 2020. External Audit Scope document – 4 March 2020

	Audit & Performance Review Committee Minutes – 7 September 2020.
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