



<b>Audit and Governance Committee</b>		Agenda Item
<b>26 January 2024</b>		<b>8</b>
Title:	Audited Statement of Accounts 2021/22 and Annual Governance Statement	
Report of:	Robert Emery, Assistant Director of Finance	
Public Report:	Yes	
Key Decision:	No	
Voting Arrangements:	A simple majority of all Members	

<b>Recommendations:</b>	
A	Approve the audited Statement of Accounts 2021/22
B	Review the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22
C	Authorise the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee to sign off any further immaterial changes required to the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 prior to publication.

<b>Strategic Objective(s):</b>	
The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):	
X	Achieving Best Value and High Performance
Completing annual statement of accounts, and the associated audit, are required by law and to demonstrate transparency and accountability to the public.	

## 1. Purpose

1.1	Following publication of the draft 2021-22 accounts, our external auditors EY have completed their audit of the accounts and the arrangements in place at the time to deliver value for money and have come to an opinion.
1.2	As set out in the Committee's terms of reference, the Audit and Governance Committee are responsible for reviewing the annual governance statement and approving the annual accounts and this report presents the accounts, as adjusted for the findings of the auditors, for the Committee's review and approval.

## 2. Proposal

2.1	The Committee are recommended to approve the audited accounts and review the annual governance statement.
-----	---

## 3. Background

3.1	According to the terms of reference the Audit and Governance Committee shall: 13.3.2 <i>"Approve the annual statement of accounts"</i> 13.3.4 <i>"Review the Annual Governance Statement prior to approval to ensure it properly reflects the risk environment and supporting assurances"</i>
3.2	In December 2022 the Committee received the draft 2021-22 Statement of Accounts (SoA) and Annual Governance Statement (AGS) ahead of their publication for public inspection and audit by EY. In November 2023 the Committee received the draft audit results report which set out the findings and required updates to the accounts since the December 2022 draft.
3.3	The audit process has now concluded, and EY have presented their findings to the committee in an earlier item on this meeting's agenda. The auditor's report includes a summary of the changes between the unaudited accounts the Committee reviewed in December 2022 and the audited accounts presented here within the 'Audit Differences' section. The audited accounts, and AGS, are now presented to the Committee for their review and approval. The narrative report, AGS, and consideration of events after the balance sheet date will need to cover the period up to the date of publication and will therefore need to be kept under review until the accounts are formally published. Authority is therefore sought for approval of the final narrative report, AGS, and any required minor adjustments to the SoA for 2021/22 to be delegated to the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee.
3.4	Following the Committee's approval, and the completion of EY's final processes, the anticipated date for the accounts to be signed off is the 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2024.

## 4. Appendices

4.1	Appendix 1 – audited statement of accounts with placeholder for audit results report.
-----	---

## 5. Implications

### Financial Implications

5.1	There are no direct financial implications to the decisions of the Committee, and the attached accounts reflect the results of the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022.
-----	--

### Legal Implications

6.1	Production of these accounts is a legal requirement.
Public Health Implications	
7.1	None
Environmental & Climate Change Implications	
8.1	None
Other Significant Implications	
9.1	None
Background Papers	
10.1	External Audit Report