

North East Derbyshire District Council

Audit and Corporate Governance Scrutiny Committee

22 September 2021

North East Derbyshire District Council – Statement of Accounts 2020/21

Report of the Head of Finance and Resources

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Jayne Dethick, Head of Finance and Resources

Contact Officer: as above

PURPOSE/SUMMARY

To approve the audited Statement of Accounts for 2020/21, as attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Audit and Corporate Governance Scrutiny Committee approve the audited Statement of Accounts in respect of 2020/21
2. That delegated powers are granted to the Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Audit and Corporate Governance Scrutiny Committee to agree any changes which may be necessary in order to ensure the finalisation of the external audit currently being concluded by the Council's external auditors Mazars to ensure completion of the Statement of Accounts by the statutory deadline of 30 September 2021.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Yes

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk

Yes

No ✓

There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal including Data Protection

Yes ✓

No

The process has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations. It should be noted that following a Government consultation exercise, this year the Council is required to complete and approve the audited Statement of Accounts by the 30 September 2021.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing

Yes

No ✓

There are no staffing issues arising directly from this report.

On Behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: <i>BDC: Revenue - £75,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Capital - £150,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Capital - £250,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Has the relevant Portfolio Holder been informed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>District Wards Affected</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</p>	<p>All</p>

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 The Statement of Accounts is a statutory document which sets out the Council's income and spending during the financial year and its balances at the end of the financial year.
- 1.2 The documents that make up the Statement of Accounts are complex and are required to be prepared in line with the accounting rules that apply to all councils.
- 1.3 The statements are audited by the Council's external auditors, Mazars LLP who provide an opinion with regard to the quality or integrity of the financial information, including the principal of 'going concern'.

2 Details of Proposal or Information

Statement of Accounts

- 2.1 The External Audit team, Mazars LLP, has been undertaking work on the Statement of Accounts throughout July and August. The outcomes of the external audit work are set out in the Audit Completion Report presented by Mazars under Item 4b) of this agenda.
- 2.2 Attached as **Appendix 1** to this report is the Council's Audited Statement of Accounts in respect of 2020/21. The External Auditor's work is substantially complete however there may be some changes still requested by the External Auditors following completion which, if required, will be reported verbally at the Committee. It is not anticipated that there will be any material changes between the version attached and the final Statement of Accounts for 2020/21.
- 2.3 Given the possibility that issues raised either at today's meeting or subsequently may require the Statement of Accounts to be amended it is recommended that delegated powers be given to the Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the Chair or Deputy Chair of this Committee to agree any final changes to the Council's Statement of Accounts 2020/21. It should be noted that the only changes that will be made under these delegated powers will relate to amendments agreed with the Council's external auditors Mazars.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The external audit process in respect of 2020/21 is substantially complete and, subject to the satisfactory completion of outstanding work, is expected to receive an unqualified audit opinion. The outcome of this review is summarised in the External Auditors Audit Completion Report (Item 4b).

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There are no alternative options for consideration.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	North East Derbyshire District Council – Statement of Accounts 2020/21.
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Report Author	Contact Number
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