

REPORT TO CABINET

Open		Would any decisions proposed :		
Any especially affected Wards	Mandatory/	(a) Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide	NO	
	Operational	(b) Need to be recommendations to Council	YES	
	None	(c) Be partly for recommendations to Council and partly within Cabinet's powers –	NO	
Lead Member: Cllr N Daubney E-mail:		Other Cabinet Members consulted:		
		Other Members consulted:		
Lead Officer: Toby Cowper E-mail: toby.cowper@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616523		Other Officers consulted: Management Team. Service Managers.		
Financial Implications YES	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications (incl S.17) YES	Equal Opportunities Implications NO	Risk Management Implications NO
If not for publication, the paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act considered to justify that is (are) paragraph(s)				

Cabinet Date: 9 September 2015

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/2015 AND REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE (ISA 260)

Summary

The report introduces the Statement of Accounts (SOA) 2014/2015 – essentially the Statement is the final accounts set out in a format which includes the Council's balance sheet and associated notes. The report also considers the report from the auditor on the audit for the accounts 2014/2015 – the International Auditing Standard (ISA 260).

Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet;

- i. approve the authority for any changes required to the Statement of Accounts is delegated to the Assistant Director (designated Section 151 officer), in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to authorise amendments and if necessary present an updated Statement to Council.
- ii. notes the comments of the auditor in the ISA260

It is recommended that Council;

- i. approve the Statement of Accounts for 2014/2015
- ii. notes the comments of the auditor in the ISA260

Reason for Decision

The Council must approve the Statement of Accounts for 2014/2015 before 30 September 2015 and consider the comments from the auditor on the ISA 260.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The report introduces the Statement of Accounts for 2014/2015 – a statutory document that must be approved by the Council before 30 September 2015. The Statement has been subject to external audit by Ernst & Young (the Council’s auditors for 2014/2015) during the summer period.
- 1.2 Cabinet has already received a report on the outturn of the budget for 2014/2015 in June. This report presents to members the formal set of accounts that are required for audit purposes. The format of the Statement of Accounts is subject to prescription under the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) which is in accordance with the relevant Audit and Account Regulations.
- 1.3 The report from the auditor on the audit for the accounts 2014/2015 – the International Auditing Standard (ISA 260) – provides members with an overview of the findings of the audit.

2 Statement of Accounts 2014/2015

- 2.1 The Council must formally approve the SOA for 2014/2015 by 30 September 2015. Ernst & Young, the external auditor has audited the document over the past few months and has indicated that they are likely to express an opinion that the accounts present fairly the position of the Council as at 31 March 2015 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.
- 2.2 As the Council’s designated S151 Officer, the Assistant Director is responsible for the SOA and certifies her acceptance of the accounts. Associated with the final accounts, the Council is required to sign off an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) which has been signed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.
- 2.4 The Balance Sheet from page 13 of the Draft Statement of Accounts 2014/2015 document (as published 30 June 2015) is copied below. The Balance Sheet is a ‘snapshot’ of the Council’s financial position at the 31 March 2015. The auditor’s ISA 260 report is based on this draft set of the financial statements.

31 March 2014		31 March 2015	
£'000		£'000	
105,518	Property, Plant and Equipment	113,219	
17,954	Heritage Assets	17,954	
28,146	Investment Property	24,081	
609	Intangible Assets	706	
5,047	Long Term Investments	6,044	
1,537	Long Term Receivables	2,959	
158,811	Long Term Assets	164,963	
15,115	Short Term Investments	14,213	
117	Inventories	87	
7,500	Short Term Receivables	7,511	
11,560	Cash and Cash Equivalents	7,431	
386	Assets Held for Sale	654	
34,678	Current Assets	29,896	
(3,441)	Provisions	(3,121)	
(3,098)	Short Term Borrowing	(140)	
(9,043)	Short Term Payables	(13,290)	
(15,582)	Current Liabilities	(16,551)	
(1,866)	Grants Receipts in Advance	(1,144)	
(13,600)	Long Term Borrowing	(13,400)	
(312)	Other Long Term Liabilities	(244)	
(44,421)	Pension Liabilities	(54,673)	
(60,199)	Long Term Liabilities	(69,461)	
117,708	Net Assets	108,847	
(25,415)	Usable Reserves	(25,811)	
(92,293)	Unusable Reserves	(83,036)	
(117,708)	Total Reserves	(108,847)	

3 The International Auditing Standard (ISA 260).

- 3.1 At the time of writing this report the auditor is still finalising the audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2014/2015 and will verbally provide an update to the attached ISA 260 report at the Audit and risk committee meeting on the 7 September 2015.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications that follow the presentation of the Statement of Accounts.

5. Policy Implications

None.

6 Statutory Considerations

The Statement of Accounts must be approved by the Council by 30 September 2015.

7. Consultations

Leader of Council

8. Access to Information

Council agenda/minutes
Financial Plan 2013 - 2017