

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2015**

REPORT BY: **CORPORATE FINANCE MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To seek Members' approval of the final Statement of Accounts for 2014/15.

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

2.01 The statutory deadline for the approval of the Statement of Accounts is 30th September.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 The audit of the 2014/15 accounts has now been substantially completed. The statutory audit completion notice will be reported in the press in due course.

3.02 As part of the final accounts process, Wales Audit Office presented to the Audit Committee on 24th September 2015 the ISA 260 reports 'Audit of the Financial Statements - Flintshire County Council' and 'Audit of the Financial Statements - Clwyd Pension Fund', attached (appendices B and C respectively). The ISA (International Standards on Auditing) 260 requires the auditor to communicate relevant matters relating to the audit of the financial statements to those charged with governance of the entity.

3.03 During the audit, a number of changes to the draft Statement of Accounts were agreed with Wales Audit Office and these have been incorporated into the document, as attached (Appendix A). The work of the WAO continues and the Accounts attached reflect changes to date. If necessary, any further changes will be reported at Audit Committee and Council.

3.04 If the Audit Committee recommend any changes to the Statement of Accounts or wish to make any specific comments to Council, these will be tabled at the meeting.

- 3.05 The Letter of Representation - Flintshire County Council, and the Letter of Representation - Clwyd Pension Fund are attached (Appendices D and E respectively). The Letter of Representation requires the Council to confirm the accuracy of the audit. In such letters, the Council confirms to the WAO that all the information contained within the financial statements is true and accurate and that all information has been disclosed.
- 3.06 If the Audit Committee recommend any changes to the letters or wish to make any specific comments to Council, these will be tabled at the meeting.
- 3.07 One of the issues arising from the audit of the 2013/14 Accounts was that the Council did not have a clear protocol that set out arrangements for the establishment, discharge and review of its Reserves. The protocol is attached as Appendix F and was considered by Audit Committee earlier today and any specific comments made will be relayed verbally at the meeting. Members are requested to approve the Reserves and Balances Protocol.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 Members are requested to approve the final Statement of Accounts for 2014/15.
- 4.02 Members are requested to approve; the Letter of Representation – Flintshire County Council, and the Letter of Representation – Clwyd Pension Fund.
- 4.03 Members are requested to approve the Reserves and Balances Protocol.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 None.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 None.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 None.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 None.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None required.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None required.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A - Statement of Accounts 2014/15
Appendix B - WAO report, Audit of the Financial Statements -
Flintshire County Council
Appendix C - WAO report, Audit of the Financial Statements – Clwyd
Pension Fund
Appendix D - Letter of Representation - Flintshire County Council
Appendix E - Letter of Representation - Clwyd Pension Fund
Appendix F – Reserves and Balances Protocol

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Various 2014/15 Final Accounts Working Papers

Contact Officer: Liz Thomas
Telephone: 01352 702289
Email: liz.thomas@flintshire.gov.uk