

Mendip District Council Statement of Accounts 2021-22 and External Audit reports

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Summary / Background

1. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the Director of Finance to publish the unaudited Statement of Accounts 2021-22 no later than 1 August 2022 and certify that they give a true and fair view of the County Council's financial position and income and expenditure for the year. This draft Statement of Accounts was published on 31 July 2022 by the Council and went to Mendip's August 2022 Audit Committee. The Regulations required the Audited Statement of Accounts to be considered by a committee of the Council by 30 November 2022 and, following that consideration, to be approved by resolution of that committee. However due to the impacts of Covid 19 ,the increased assurance work auditors are required to carry out in of respect pensions and asset valuations and resourcing, and the impact of the backlog of accounts across local authorities/public sector it was not possible to deliver the accounts until now. This report presents the audited accounts to the Audit & Governance Committee for consideration and approval, accompanied by the findings of the external auditors Ernst & Young LLP's audit results and annual report. Also, presented for consideration by the committee is the audit plan for 2022-23.
2. A representative from the external auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, will attend to present the following 3 items as mentioned above:

21/22 Audit Results Report

21/22 Auditor's Annual Report

22/23 Audit Plan

Recommendations

3. The Audit Committee
 - (a) **Consider and approve the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 - Appendix 1;**
 - (b) **Agree the changes to the Annual Governance Statement for 2021 -22, previously approved by the Committee on 3 August 2022; Annex 2 and approve the final version - Appendix 2;**
 - (c) **Consider and review the reports from the external Auditors Ernst & Young - Appendices 3,4, & 5.**

Reasons for recommendations

4. As advised in the summary this is a statutory requirement to publish the audited Statement of Accounts.

Other options considered.

5. N/A

Links to Council Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan

6. Achievement of the Corporate Priorities as set out in the Council's plan is intrinsically linked to the spending of the Council's budget. Provided the outturn is within budget tolerance as is the case in 2021 22 this will be line with the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

Financial and Risk Implications

7. There are no direct Financial and Risk implications.

Legal Implications

8. There are no direct legal implications.

HR Implications

9. There are no direct HR implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports.

Other Implications:

Equalities Implications

10. There are no direct equality implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports.

Community Safety Implications

11. There are no Community Safety implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports.

Climate Change and Sustainability Implications

12. There are no Climate Change and sustainability implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports .

Health and Safety Implications

13. There are no direct HR implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports.

Health and Wellbeing Implications

14. There are no Health and Well being implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports.

Social Value

15 There are no direct social value implications from the Statement of Accounts/reports.

Scrutiny comments / recommendations:

16. N/A Statement of Accounts work is an Audit Committee function.

Background Papers

17. All documents referenced are listed in the Appendices below.

Appendices

- 1. Legacy Mendip District Council's Statement of Accounts 2021- 22
- 2. Legacy Mendip District Council's Annual Governance Statement 2021-22
- 3. Ernst & Young 21/22 Audit Results Report
- 4. Ernst & Young 21/22 Auditor's Annual Report
- 5. Ernst & Young 22/23 Audit Plan