



AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	2009/10 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Audit Committee Meeting Date:	28 June 2010
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Finance and Support
Accountable Cabinet Member:	David Perkins

1. Purpose

1.1 To present the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts to the Audit Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the committee review the 2009/10 statement of accounts.

2.2 That the revised General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances be noted.

2.3 That subject to any comments arising at 2.1 above, the draft 2009/10 statement of accounts be adopted.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 require the Council to formally approve the Statement of Accounts by 30th June.

3.1.2 The detailed format of the statement of accounts follows guidance issued by CIPFA/LASSAC. The format of the statement can change from year to year to reflect new requirements or changes in best practice.

3.1.3 The attached statement of accounts at Annex A will be presented to the external auditor on 30th June 2010 and will then be available to the general public through the statutory deposit period. During this time members of the public may view documents and ask questions.

3.1.4 Any material changes arising from the audit of the 2009/10 accounts will be reported back to the Audit Committee in September.

3.2 Issues

General Fund

3.2.1 The General Fund working balances total £2.45m as identified within the Statement of Accounts at Annex A (page 31). The Council also holds General Fund earmarked reserves of £11.9m to mitigate specific business risks as identified within the Statement of Accounts at Annex A (page 76 Note 35 f). Taking the Council's financial position into account and the inherent risks in the 2010/11 budget along with potential risks relating to single status, the medium term minimum prudent level of working balance should be £3m. The Council is moving towards this level within the confines of affordability. The prudent level of working balances is subject to ongoing review.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

3.2.2 The outturn position for the HRA shows an accumulated in year surplus of £637k giving a level of working balances of £6.76m as identified within the Statement of Accounts at Annex A (page 91). The Council also holds an HRA earmarked reserve of £11.2m as identified within the Statement of Accounts at Annex A (page 76 Note 35 f); £9.26m to finance future capital expenditure, £1m leaseholders sinking fund, and £0.94m for service improvements.

The Collection Fund

3.2.3 The collection fund had an in year deficit of £312k resulting in an overall fund deficit of £1.1m. It was estimated in January 2010 that the deficit would be £1.098m and this was apportioned between precepting authorities and the proportion relating to this council (£171k) was included when setting the budgets for 2010/11. The balance will be carried forward into the 2010/11 collection fund and will form part of the calculation of surpluses and deficits for setting the 2011/12 budget.

3.3 Choices (Options)

3.3.1 The committee is invited to review the 2009/10 statement of accounts.

3.3.2 The committee is asked to note the revised general fund and housing revenue account balances.

3.3.3 The committee is asked, subject to any comments arising at 3.3.1 above, to adopt the 2009/10 statement of accounts.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 None

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 The statement of accounts summaries the Council's Financial Position as at 31st March 2010.

4.2.2 The Council's General fund working balance as at 31st March 2010 was £2.45m. Balances which have been earmarked for use are £11.9m.

4.2.3 The Council's Housing Revenue Account working balance as at 31st March 2010 was £6.76m. Balances which have been earmarked for use are £11.2m.

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 The statement of accounts is a statutory document which needs to be approved by the Council by 30th June 2010 in respect of the 2009/10 financial year.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 None

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

4.5.1 The attached statement of accounts at annex A will be presented to the external auditor on 30th June 2010 and will thereafter be available to the general public through the statutory deposit period. During this time members of the public may view documents and ask questions.

4.6 Other Implications

4.6.1 None

5. Background Papers

5.1 Statement of accounts working papers

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