

North Tyneside Council

Report to Audit Committee

Date: 26 July 2023

Report from Service: Finance

Report Author: Jon Ritchie, Director of Resources Tel: 643 5701

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

- 1.1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit Committee with an update in respect of the closure of the 2022/23 accounts.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

- 1.2.1 It is recommended that the Audit Committee:

- (a) note the publication of the draft Statement of Accounts; and
- (b) note that the External Audit commenced on 23 June 2023.

1.3 Forward Plan

- 1.3.1 This report is contained in the forward plan of the Audit Committee.

1.4 Council plan and policy framework:

- 1.4.1 The Annual Statement of Accounts covers all the service responsibilities as identified within the Council Plan.

1.5 Information

- 1.5.1 The draft Statement of Accounts for 2022/23 have been produced and were published on the Authority's website on 15 June 2023. A summary of the main

points in the accounts will be presented to the Audit Committee at its meeting. The Authority's external auditors began their audit of the 2022/23 accounts on 23 June 2023 with the aim of having a signed off Statement of Accounts published by the end of November 2023.

1.6 Decision options:

The options available are:

- (a) To accept the recommendations made in section 1.2.1.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

The production of an audited Annual Statement of Accounts is a requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

1.8 Appendices:

2022/23 – Draft Annual Statement of Accounts

1.9 Contact officers:

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Claire Emmerson, Head of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer), Tel 643 8109
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Peter Weir, Principal Accountant, Tel 643 8066

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers and reports have been used in the compilation of this report and are available for inspection at the offices of the author:

- (a) Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021.

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendations within this report.

2.2 Legal

The Authority has a duty to ensure that it produces a draft Annual Statement of Accounts by 31 May 2023 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

Consultation will take place with key personnel and interested parties involved in the closedown process.

2.4 Human rights

There are no Human Rights implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no Equalities and Diversity implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

2.6 Risk management

A risk log has been set up which identifies the key risks and issues associated with the closedown process. The management of these risks are part of the overall process.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.