

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL  
AUDIT**

**24 JULY 2019**

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**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2018/2019**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To present the Statement of Accounts in respect of the 2018/2019 financial year for Wiltshire Council.

**Policy Considerations**

2. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts and to arrange for them to be audited and reported in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and the 2018/19 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). The Statement of Accounts present the overall financial position of the Council reflecting the outturn position above.

**Background and Introduction**

3. The draft Statement of Accounts were brought to the previous Audit Committee on 26 June 2019.
4. The draft Statement of Accounts have been subject to external audit by the Council's appointed auditors (Deloitte) before the final set is brought to the Audit Committee for final approval. This adoption process ensures that there is external independent scrutiny of the figures in the Statement of Accounts before they are brought to the Audit Committee. Under the constitution, in Wiltshire the Statement of Accounts are adopted by the Audit Committee.
5. Deloitte are required to report on any amendments from the draft Statement of Accounts as part of the submission of the final version to the Audit Committee. This is elsewhere on the agenda. The full report on issues arising from this audit is included in the report to those charged with governance. This report should be read in conjunction with this document and the proposal is subject to any issues arising from that report.

**Key Issues Arising**

6. The draft accounts were signed by the Chief Finance Officer on 31 May 2019, in line with the revised statutory deadline. Deloitte commenced the year end audit on 3 June 2019. The draft accounts were taken to Cabinet on 11 June 2019 and then Audit Committee on 26 June 2019.

7. During the audit, some formatting and presentational changes were agreed. These have been included in this final draft Statement of Accounts. As covered in the report to those charged with governance. Deloitte are currently finalising their audit work. Any further changes required will be presented to the Audit Committee at this meeting.
8. This is ahead of the Statutory Deadline of 31 July.
9. The draft outturn on the General Revenue Fund reported to Cabinet on 11 June 2019 was an underspend of £0.357 million and an additional top up deposit of £1.800 million which was returned to General Revenue Fund Reserves. Further details of this were reported to Cabinet on 11 June 2019 in the Revenue Outturn Report.
10. The Housing Revenue Account had a final unaudited outturn underspend of £2.119 million. Additionally, there was a planned draw of £6.503 million from reserves to support the HRA new build programme. This results in an overall draw from reserves of £4.384 million.

### **Statement of Accounts format**

11. The Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement summarises the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from local taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations. This is different from the accounting cost. The Movement in Reserves Statement reflects the true cost to council tax payers of services provided.

### **Overview and Scrutiny Engagement**

12. There is a 30 working day public inspection period where interested parties may come in to inspect the accounts. This runs from 3 June 2019 to 12 July 2019.
13. The Wiltshire Pension Fund Statement of Accounts will be reported to the Pension Committee on 20 June 2019. Once approved, subject to the completion of the audit, the Wiltshire Pension Fund Financial Statements 2018/19 will be referred to the Audit Committee on 24 July 2019 as part of the Final Accounts.

### **Safeguarding Implications**

14. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

### **Public Health Implications**

15. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

### **Procurement Implications**

16. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

### **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

17. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

**Environmental and Climate Change Considerations**

18. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

**Risk Assessment**

19. None.

**Financial Implications**

20. There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

**Legal Implications**

21. There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

**Recommendations**

22. That the Audit Committee receives and notes the final draft Statement of Accounts for 2018/2019.

**Reason for Recommendations**

23. To ensure the Audit Committee are aware of the final draft Statement of Accounts for 2018/2019.

**BECKY HELLARD**

Interim Director, Finance & Procurement

Report Author

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

**Appendices:**

Appendix A

Wiltshire Council Statement of Accounts 2018/2019