

REPORT TO:	AUDIT COMMITTEE	
DATE:	30 July 2018	
PORTFOLIO:	Cllr Joyce Plummer - Resources	
REPORT AUTHOR:	David Donlan, Head of Accountancy	
TITLE OF REPORT:	Statement of Accounts 2017/18	
EXEMPT REPORT (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A)	No	Not applicable
KEY DECISION:	No	If yes, date of publication:

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The report is to inform the Committee on the production of the Annual Accounts and their External Audit and deal with issues arising from this work.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Audit Committee is recommended to:

- Approve and sign the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 in Appendix A.
- Approve and sign the letter of representation in Appendix B.
- Approve the Slippage on the Capital Programme as shown at Appendix C.
- Note the audit findings report which is found separately on the agenda.

3. Reasons for Recommendations and Background

3.1 To ensure that the Council complies with its statutory duty to submit the audited accounts for 2017/18 by the 31 July 2018 deadline and places a copy of the accounts and notice of completion of the audit on the Council website.

3.2 The draft accounts were completed and published on the Council's website on the 31 May 2018. Subsequently, Grant Thornton, our external auditors, have undertaken their on-site audit of the accounts and work is close to completion.

3.3 The formal audit findings are presented in a separate report from Grant Thornton elsewhere on this agenda.

3.4 The period of public inspection of the accounts began on the 1 June 2018 and ended on the 12 July 2018. The Accounts and Audit regulations 2015 say the Council must, following the conclusion of the right of public inspection:

- Consider the statement of accounts by way of committee (this committee) or by the members as a whole
- Approve the statement of accounts by resolution of that committee
- Ensure that the statement of accounts is signed and dated by the person presiding at the committee at which their approval is given.

3.5 Subject to the Committee's approval and receipt of the auditor's opinion, the accounts will be published on the Council's website.

3.6 Once confirmation has been received from Grant Thornton that the audit is complete, a 'Notice of Conclusion of Audit' will be published. It will explain that the audit of the Council's accounts has finished and state where the accounts and auditor's report can be inspected.

3.7 The Audit Committee has responsibility under the Council management arrangements for approving the roll forward of Slippage on the Capital Programme from one year to the next. Cabinet have previously received the attached report at Appendix C on the Capital Programme for 2017/18 and asked Audit Committee to approve the list as shown in this report.

4. Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 There are no alternative options.

5. Consultations

5.1 None

6. Implications

Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council)	As described in the Statement of Accounts.
Legal and human rights implications	Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the Council to approve and publish its audited Statement of Accounts by 31 July 2018. Councillors' approval at this meeting will satisfy the requirement.
Assessment of risk	None.
Equality and diversity implications A <i>Customer First Analysis</i> should be completed in relation to policy decisions and should be attached as an appendix to the report.	None.

7. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985:**
List of Background Papers

7.1 None.