

Meeting date: 26 July 2021
Report to: Audit Committee



Subject/report title: Draft Statement of Accounts 2020/21
Report from: Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive
Report author/lead contact officer: Adam Paterson, Finance Manager, Financial Cycle Team
apaterson@solihull.gov.uk 0121 704 6904

Wards affected:

All Wards | Bickenhill | Blythe | Castle Bromwich | Chelmsley Wood |
 Dorridge/Hockley Heath | Elmdon | Kingshurst/Fordbridge | Knowle |
 Lyndon | Meriden | Olton | Shirley East | Shirley South |
 Shirley West | Silhill | Smith's Wood | St Alphege

Public/private report: Public

Exempt by virtue of paragraph:

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To ask Members to review the Council's draft Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 (see Appendix A).

2. Decision(s) recommended

2.1 Members are asked to review the Council's draft Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 (see Appendix A) and to refer any comments for consideration to the Governance Committee meeting on 28 July 2021.

3. Matters for Consideration

3.1 The role of the Audit Committee is to review the draft Statement of Accounts and to pass any comments on to the Governance Committee for their meeting on 28 July where they will be asked to approve the draft statement alongside inspection by the external auditors during June - September 2021.

3.2 Due to a review of Local Authority Statement of Accounts preparation and Audit (The Redmond Review), central government have extended the deadlines for the production of draft accounts to 31 July and final audited accounts to 30 September for both 2020/21 and 2021/22. Officers in Financial Operations have continued to follow the original timetable as much as possible and produced draft accounts well ahead of the 31 July deadline.

- 3.3 The Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive is required to sign the draft Statement of Accounts before it is published on the Council's website and before the period for public inspection takes place. The Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive signed the draft Statement of Accounts on 22 June 2021 and it was then published ready for the start of the public inspection period which runs from Thursday 24 June to Wednesday 4 August 2021.
- 3.4 The final version of the Statement of Accounts and the External Auditor's Audit Findings Report will then be presented for review by Audit Committee and for approval by Governance Committee in September, ahead of the revised statutory requirements to produce audited accounts by the end of September.
- 3.5 The draft Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 has been prepared in a format to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (The Code) and reflects the 2020/21 Revenue and Capital outturn position which was reported to Full Cabinet on 17 June.
- 3.6 The draft Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 is contained within Appendix A. Audit Committee members have been invited to a briefing meeting before Audit Committee takes place to outline the key statements and disclosure notes and key changes this financial year. We are also undertaking a similar briefing session for Governance Committee Members on 28 July.
- 3.7 Officers from Financial Operations will be present at the meeting to answer any questions that Members may have.
- 4. What options have been considered and what is the evidence telling us about them?**
- 4.1 Not applicable
- 5. Reasons for recommending preferred option**
- 5.1 Not applicable
- 6. Implications and Considerations**
- 6.1 State how the proposals in this report contribute to the priorities in the [Council Plan](#):

Priority:	Contribution:
<p>Economy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revitalising our towns and local centres. 2. UK Central (UKC) and maximising the opportunities of HS2. 3. Increase the supply of housing, especially affordable and social housing. 	<p>The draft Statement of Accounts for 2020/2021 is a statutory requirement and as such does not in its own right contribute to the delivery of the Council Priorities. However, it is one of the Council's statutory financial documents and reports the financial outcome of the delivery of the Council's priorities during 2020/21, in compliance with our accounting requirements.</p>

<p>Environment:</p> <p>4. Enhance Solihull's natural environment.</p> <p>5. Improve Solihull's air quality.</p> <p>6. Reduce Solihull's net carbon emissions.</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>People and Communities:</p> <p>7. Take action to improve life chances in our most disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>8. Enable communities to thrive.</p> <p>9. Sustainable, quality, affordable provision for adults & children with complex needs.</p>	<p>As above</p>

6.2 Consultation and Scrutiny:

6.2.1 This report is to Audit Committee which performs the scrutiny function on the draft Statement of Accounts

6.3 Financial implications:

6.3.1 These are contained within the draft Statement of Accounts.

6.4 Legal implications:

6.4.1 Legal requirements are considered to be met through the draft Statement of Accounts.

6.5 Risk implications:

6.5.1 Risk implications are considered to be met through the draft Statement of Accounts.

6.6 Equality implications:

6.6.1 None

7. List of appendices referred to

Appendix A – Draft Statement of Accounts 2020/21

8. Background papers used to compile this report

8.1 None

9. List of other relevant documents

9.1 None