

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**AUDIT COMMITTEE**
27th SEPTEMBER, 2010**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10**

OPEN	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	Stronger Communities
CORPORATE PLAN AIM:	A well-run and responsive Council
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Nathan Desmond
DIRECTOR:	Director of Resources
CONTACT OFFICER:	David Buckland Ext. 2100
APPENDIX 1	Summary of agreed main changes to Statement of Accounts 2009/10
APPENDIX 2	Draft Letter of Representation 2009/10
APPENDIX 3	Statement of Accounts Overview

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the changes that have been agreed to the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 following the audit undertaken by the Audit Commission.
- 1.2 The Council is also required to provide an updated version of the Letter of Representation to the Auditors, before they will issue the audit opinion for 2009/10; the wording of this is attached for approval.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee is asked to DECIDE that:-

- 2.1 **The Revised Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 be approved.**
- 2.2 **The Letter of Representation for 2009/10 attached at Appendix 2 be approved.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The draft Statement of Accounts was approved by the Audit Committee at the meeting held on June 28th, 2010.
- 3.2 The Audit Commission has now concluded their audit of the accounts and has indicated they will be providing an unqualified opinion.
- 3.3 During the course of the audit there were a number of issues raised by the Auditors and the Accounts were amended accordingly. A summary of the agreed main changes is attached at Appendix 1. The main changes were in respect of the presentation of accounting entries for the Icelandic investments and in relation to complex fixed asset revaluations.
- 3.4 Incorporating the changes identified at Appendix 1, the Statement of Accounts will be published by 30th September 2010, and these will also be made available on the Council's web-site.

3.5 The Letter of Representation is attached at Appendix 2. This letter is in line with the requirement of the Audit Commission as detailed within their Annual Governance Reports. This letter is to be signed by the S.151 officer (Director of Resources), and the Chair of the Audit Committee.

3.6 A revised Statement of Accounts overview is attached at Appendix 3.

4. KEY ISSUES

4.1 The audit of the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 has been concluded and it is likely that the Audit Commission will issue an unqualified Opinion.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This is a financial report identifying changes to the Statement of Accounts 2009/10 following the audit, and presentation of the Letter of Representation.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 It is a requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 that the Statement of Accounts are published by the 30th September following the end of the financial year.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

7.1 The accounts must be published by the 30th September 2010, if they are not approved this would mean the Council has not complied with Accounts and Audit Regulations.

7.2 There is concern surrounding the preservation of the "preferred" status in relation to the Landsbanki deposit. Further updates will be provided as soon as they become available.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 This is a financial report and there is no requirement to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 The Council is required to prepare and approve the draft Statement of Accounts by 30th June 2010, and for these to be audited and published by 30th September 2010. This report highlights the changes to the Accounts, agreed as a result of the audit.

9.2 The report also approves the Letter of Representation which is required to be signed by Management before the Audit Commission can provide their opinion in relation to the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts.

10. CONSULTEES

10.1 CMT

10.2 Audit Commission

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 and 2006 and 2009 Amendments.

11.2 Audit Committee Report 28th June 2010