

## NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY, 26  
OCTOBER 2022



Title of Report	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS UPDATE REPORT	
Presented by	Anna Crouch Finance Team Manager and Deputy S151 Officer	
Background Papers	<a href="#">Statement of Accounts Update Report</a> – Audit and Governance Committee 27 July 2022	Public Report: Yes
Purpose of Report	To provide the Audit Committee with an update on the progress of the Authority’s 2020/21 and 2021/22 Statement of Accounts.	
Recommendations	FOR THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE TO NOTE THIS REPORT AND PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS.	

### 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The committee were provided with an update on the status of both 2020/21 and 2021/22 Statement of Accounts at its meeting in July. This report is to provide an update on progress since the last meeting

### 2.0 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21

- 2.1 In the last update, it was reported that the finance team were waiting for the valuation data from the council's valuer. This was expected to be received by the end of July. Due to additional measurements required for the council offices and additional valuations required for the garage sites, the valuations were not concluded until the 14 October. This has therefore delayed the publication of the updated draft accounts from the 30 September to the 18 November 2022.
- 2.2 The Council's External Auditors, Mazars, have confirmed they will be concluding the audit of the 2020/21 from week commencing 21 November for 4 weeks.

### 3.0 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2021/22

- 3.1 As reported to the July meeting, the publication of the draft 2021/22 Statement of Accounts will be delayed due to the ongoing issues with the 2020/21 accounts. This meant that the statutory deadline was missed. A notice has been placed on the council's website to this effect.

### 4.0 PUBLICATION TIMELINE

- 4.1 Due to the delays in obtaining the valuation data, the timetable presented to the committee in July has been updated to reflect the revised forecasted timeline for publishing the 2020/21 and 2021/22 accounts.

Table A: Statement of Accounts Updated Publication Timeline

Activity	Forecast Date
2020/21 Statement of Accounts – updated Draft	18/11/22
2020/21 Statement of Accounts – Final	13/01/23
2020/21 Statement of Accounts – Approval - Audit Committee	25/01/23
2021/22 Provisional Outturn – Cabinet	28/03/23
2021/22 Statement of Accounts – Draft	31/03/23
2021/22 Statement of Accounts – Final	TBC
2021/22 Statement of Accounts – Approval - Audit Committee	TBC

4.2 The successful achievement of the above timeline is based on several factors, some of which are outside the control of the Council:

- a) External Audit resources are available to complete the audits.
- b) The findings from the external audit do not to create any further delays.
- c) The capacity of the finance team is available to be able to finalise the accounts and support the audit. In addition to the accounts, the team is also in the process of implementing a new finance system which is scheduled to go live in December 2022, budget setting for 2023/24 which commenced in September and the monitoring of the 22/23 budgets will continue throughout the year.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Effective management of the council's finances underpins the delivery of all council priorities.
Policy Considerations:	None
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	None
Customer Impact:	None
Economic and Social Impact:	None
Environment and Climate Change:	None
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	None
Risks:	The late publication of the accounts could have a detrimental impact of the Council's financial standings and reputation.
Officer Contact	Anna Crouch Finance Team Manager & S151 Officer <a href="mailto:anna.crouch@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">anna.crouch@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a>