

North Tyneside Council Report to Council Date: 22 September 2016

ITEM 6

2015/16 Annual Financial Report

Portfolio(s): Elected Mayor Finance and Resources	Cabinet Member(s): Norma Redfearn Councillor Ray Glendon
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Report from: Finance

Responsible Officer: Janice Gillespie, Head of Finance Tel 6435701

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek full Council's approval of the 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Report in accordance with Section 9 (2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. A holding report is submitted at this stage to allow the remaining details of the report to be completed.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

Council is recommended to:

- (a) approve the Audit Completion Report, submitted by the Authority's external auditors Mazars, and agree the draft Letter of Management Representation; and,
- (b) approve the 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Report.

1.3 Forward plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 13 June 2016.

1.4 Council plan and policy framework:

The 2015/16 Annual Financial Report covers the financial aspects of all service responsibilities as identified within the Council Plan and the Authority's policy frameworks.

1.5 Information:

- 1.5.1 It is a requirement of Section 9 (2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code that the Authority approves its audited Annual Financial Report for the financial year and, for 2015/16, it must then publish these accounts by 30 September.
- 1.5.2 The audit of the 2015/16 accounts is currently being concluded. The Audit Completion Report, in respect of the 2015/16 Annual Financial Report, is being compiled by Mazars, and will be presented to the Audit Committee on 21 September 2016 in addition to this meeting of full Council. A holding report is submitted at this stage to allow the detail of this report to be completed.

1.6 Decision options:

It is a statutory requirement that the audited Statement of Accounts is approved by 30 September 2016.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

The Authority is required under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to approve its audited Annual Financial Report by 30 September 2016.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix A: Annual Financial Report for 2015/16
Appendix B: Audit Completion Report for 2015/16

1.9 Contact officers:

Janice Gillespie, Head of Finance, Tel 643 5701

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers and research reports have been used in the compilation of this report and are available for inspection at the offices of the author:

- (a) [Revenue Budget 2015/16 \(P\)](#)
- (b) [Approved Investment Plan 2015-19 \(P\)](#)

- (b) CIPFA Code of Practice 2015/16 (P)
Can be inspected at the Authority's offices.
- (c) CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2015/16 (P)
Can be inspected at the Authority's offices.

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

As this is a financial report, implications are covered in the body of the report itself and the 2015/16 Annual Financial Report attached as Appendix A to this report.

2.2 Legal

The Authority is required under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code to prepare and approve its accounts for the financial year 2015/16 by 30 September 2016.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

In line with statutory requirements the draft Annual Financial report for the year ended 31 March 2016 was published by 30 June 2016 and was available on the Authority's website.

Internal consultation on this report and the Annual Financial Report has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Finance, the Chief Executive and his Senior Leadership Team. Members briefing sessions were provided on 5 and 6 July 2016.

Members of the public were able to inspect the accounts under the statutory public inspection of accounts period from 1 July to 11 August 2016.

The Annual Financial Report records the financial position of the Authority for the year ended 31 March 2016. This sets out the financial transactions that have been undertaken under the Authority's 2015/16 budgets (both revenue and capital). The 2015/16 budget was completed after widespread consultation in line with the Council's approved Budget Engagement Strategy. The report to Council on 5 February 2015 entitled "2015-2018 Financial Planning and Budget Process report" summarises the outcome of this engagement (see Annex 1 of the report).

2.4 Human rights

The proposals within this report do not have direct implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are direct no equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

Potential future financial pressures against the Authority are covered in this report and registered through the Authority's risk management process.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no direct environmental and sustainability implications arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Deputy Chief Executive
- Head of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy