

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE

24 SEPTEMBER 2015

REPORT OF THE SECTION 151 OFFICER

FINAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014-15

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the final Statement of Accounts for 2014-15 which is now due to be signed off by our external auditors, KPMG, the associated Letter of Representation of the Council and the final audited Annual Return for Harbour Authority.
- 1.2 KPMG will update Members on their main findings and summarise the audit work carried out in respect of the financial year 2014-15 and present their Audit of Financial Statements Report which requires the Appointed Auditor to report to those charged with governance these key findings.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives and Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The Council's financial performance is an important element in determining the extent to which the Corporate Objectives can be delivered.

3. Background

- 3.1 The unaudited Statement of Accounts for 2014-15 was signed by the responsible financial officer before the 30 June 2015 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014. During the intervening period, the external audit has taken place resulting in a number of amendments being made to the financial statements and the Annual Return for the Harbour Authority.
- 3.2 The audited Statement of Accounts 2014-15 is attached at **Appendix A** and is due to be signed off as presenting a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2015 by 30 September 2015.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

- 4.1 The Council Fund balance as at 31 March 2015 presented in the pre-audit Statement of Accounts was £7.450 million. There were no audit adjustments that impacted on this figure. However, as identified within

the External Auditor's 'Audit of Financial Statements Report' (**Appendix B**), there were a number of adjustments to the asset valuations within the post audit Balance Sheet. These reflect the rise in building indices from the date of valuation 1 April 2014 to the year-end balance sheet date 31 March 2015.

4.2 A Final Letter of Representation is required by the External Audit Manager, KPMG, and the Appointed Auditor, the Wales Audit Office to complete the process and enable the accounts to be signed off. This is included as **Appendix C**.

4.3 This is the first year where the Council has prepared an Annual Return for the Harbour Authority. There have been some adjustments to the Return as a result of the audit and an amended Return is attached as **Appendix D**.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedural Rules

5.1 There are no implications upon policy framework and procedural rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality implications.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 These are reflected in the body of the report.

8. Recommendations

8.1 It is recommended that Members:-

- Approve the audited Statement of Accounts 2014-15 (Appendix A)
- Note the Appointed Auditors Audit of Financial Statements Report (Appendix B)
- Agree the Final Letter of Representation to the Wales Audit Office (Appendix C)
- Approve the audited Annual Return for the Harbour Authority (Appendix D)

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Background Documents:

Bridgend County Borough Council Statement of Accounts 2014-15
The Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2010