

21 July 2020**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND
IMPROVEMENT****STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2019/20 – ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Purpose of the Report**

1. To allow Members to review and consider the proposed accounting policies used in creating the Authority's Statement of Accounts for 2019/20.
2. Members recommend the updated Accounting Policies to Policy Committee for approval.

Information

3. The Statement of Accounts includes a section explaining the accounting policies used in producing the main statements for the benefit of the reader. Both the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (The Code) and our External Auditors indicate that these policies should be reviewed and approved by the Governance and Ethics Committee prior to inclusion in the final Statement of Accounts.
4. As well as updating the various dates in the accounting policies the following change has been made:
 - Accounting Policy 8 - The CIPFA Code does not specify de-minimis thresholds instead its level should be regularly reviewed and set in relation to our estimation of materiality. As such, the threshold for capitalising non-Property assets has been set at £10,000 to reflect the materiality of the overall financial statements.
5. The proposed 2019/20 accounting policies can be seen in Appendix A.

Other Options Considered

6. This report is for the approval of statutory required accounting policies.

Reason/s for Recommendations

7. It is considered good practice to have the Authority's accounting policies approved each year. In addition, the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom requires changes to the Authority's accounting policies to be approved.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Members consider the proposed changes to the Authority's accounting policies.
- 2) That Members recommend the updated Accounting Policies to Policy Committee for approval.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (KK 07/07/2020)

9. Governance and Ethics Committee is the appropriate body of the Council to consider the report.

Financial Comments (GB 23/06/2020)

10. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Code of Practice on Local Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- Not applicable