



<u>Committee and Date</u> Council 24 September 2009	<u>Item</u> Public	<u>Paper</u>
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AUDITED ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2008/09 (SHREWSBURY & ATCHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL)

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Summary

This covering report and attached Annual Statement of Accounts, present to Members the audited Accounts for 2008/09 on which the District Auditor has given an unqualified opinion.

Members have previously approved the draft Accounts (16 July Council Meeting) and this report also identifies technical changes made to the Accounts since the July Council Meeting.

Recommendations

- A. Members are asked to note the audited 2008/09 Annual Statement of Accounts on which the District Auditor has given an unqualified opinion.

REPORT

Background

1. The Statement of Accounts and Revenue and Capital Outturn reports were presented to the Audit Committee on 2 July 2009 and to Council on 16 July 2009. Closure of the accounts for 2008/09 was achieved in accordance with the Local Government (Structural Changes) (Further Transitional and Supplementary Provision and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2009, which extended the deadline for signing and approval of the statement of accounts by 31 July 2009 for the new unitary authorities.
2. The Audit Commission audited the accounts during July/August and the Auditor has issued an unqualified audit opinion on the accounts. The formal publication of the audited Statement of Accounts was made to the Audit Committee on 17 September 2009, this formal publication is now being made to all Council Members.

Audit Commission Opinion

3. In summary the Audit Commission reported as follows.

“The financial statements present fairly, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2006, the financial position of Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council at 31st March 2009 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.”

Changes from the Draft Statement of Accounts Approved by Council on 16 July 2009

4. There have been no material changes to any of the main accounting statements since the version reported to the Audit Committee and Council in July 2009. A number of technical changes and minor typographical errors have been made, all with the agreement of the Audit Commission. The main changes are listed below:

- a) The Provisions and Earmarked Reserves balances have been updated to reflect the reclassification of a provision to a reserve.
- b) The Income and Expenditure Account now includes transactions relating to waste collections in order to accurately reflect the council's position in line with JANE accounting principles.
- c) The Transfer to/from the Collection Fund in the Income and Expenditure Account now reflects the 2007/08 share of surplus on the Collection Fund.
- d) The Long Term and Short Term Debtor figures on the Balance Sheet have been updated to reflect the reclassification of a debt from long term to short term.
- e) The Debtors and Creditors figures relating to the Collection Fund have been amended to show the balances gross rather than these being netted off together.
- f) The officer emolument note has been expanded to provide more detail around redundancy payments.
- g) The related party transactions note has been expanded to disclose members' interest in work commissioned.
- h) The notes to the Cash Flow Statement have been adjusted to correct some errors identified during the review of the account working papers.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Audited Statement of Accounts 2008/09. Audit Committee 17 September 2009.

Statement of Accounts 2008/09. Audit Committee 2 July 2009, Council 16 July 2009.

Council Constitution: Part 4, Rules of Procedure – Financial Procedure Rules.

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

Environmental Appraisal

N/A

Community / Consultations Appraisal

The original budget was subject to a public consultation process. A Summary Statement of Accounts has also been produced for public use. All of this information is available in hard copy and on the Council's website and can be made available in different formats for people with disabilities.

Cabinet Member

All Cabinet Members.

Local Member

All Members.

Appendices

Audited Statement of Accounts 2008/09

Decision(s)