

Report of the Section 151 Officer

Audit Committee – 21 July 2016

DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2015/16

Purpose: The report presents the Draft Statement of Accounts for 2015/16 and is presented to the Audit Committee for Information and Review.

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Legal Officer: Lucy Moore

Access to Services Officer: Sherill Hopkins

FOR INFORMATION

1. Background

1.1 Legislation requires the Council to produce an annual Statement of Accounts in respect of each Financial year as follows:-

- **By 30th June** following the year to which the Accounts relate – Accounts to be drafted and signed by the Section 151 Officer
- **By 30th September** following the year to which the Accounts relate the Accounts are required to be audited and approved by Council

1.2 The Draft Accounts for 2015/16 have been prepared and were signed by the Section 151 Officer on 24th June 2016. A copy is appended at Appendix 'A' to this report

1.3 The Accounts have been formally presented to the Council's auditors – Wales Audit Office – who have commenced the audit of the Accounts.

1.4 As part of the audit process the Accounts will be made available for inspection by the public for a four week period during August/early September 2016.

2. Form and content of the Statement

2.1 The form and content of the report is largely set out in the CIPFA code of practice which forms the basis of best practice in accordance with legislation.

3. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 3.1 There are no equality and engagement issues associated with this report; any relevant items within the budget for the past three years have been subject to the Equality Impact Assessment process and all resulting reports are available at www.swansea.gov.uk/eia.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications.

FOR INFORMATION

Background papers: *Accounts and Audit Regulations*
Cipfa Accounting Code of Practice

Appendices: Appendix 'A' – Draft Statement of Accounts 2015/16.