

## **Audit, Risk and Governance Committee**

Meeting to be held on Monday, 31 January 2022

Electoral Division affected: N/A;
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### **Matters arising under Urgent Business since the last meeting**

Contact for further information:

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#### **Executive Summary**

Following an informal meeting of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee held virtually on Tuesday 21 December 2021, at which the committee endorsed the recommendations set out in the report, the Chief Executive and Director of Resources approved as a matter of Urgent Business the following recommendations:

- i) Approve the 2020/21 Statement of Accounts for Lancashire County Council and Lancashire County Pension Fund, at Appendix A;
- ii) Agree that the management representation letters, at Appendices B and C, be signed by the Chief Financial Officer and the Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee prior to them being made available to the external auditor;
- iii) Note the letter from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, at Appendix D; and
- iv) Note the findings in the external auditor's Audit Findings Report, the minor disclosure updates made to the financial statements and the other matters raised by the auditor, as set out in their report at Appendix E.

#### **Recommendation**

The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee is asked to note the matters arising under Urgent Business since its last meeting.

#### **Background and Advice**

The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021 required that the draft accounts for 2020/21 were published by 31 July 2021 and the audited accounts and opinion were published by 30 September 2021.

The draft Statement of Accounts were certified by the Chief Finance Officer and published on the council's website on 26 May 2021, ahead of the statutory deadline.

The Pension Fund Committee at its meeting of 17 September 2021, reviewed the accounts of the Fund and subject to any audit adjustments agreed by the Head of Fund, recommended that the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee approve these accounts.

In light of revised Government guidance in response to Covid-19, which indicated that holding an Extraordinary Meeting of the committee in December 2021 was inadvisable, the Urgent Business Procedure was used to seek approval for the council's Statement of Accounts instead.

The report, appendices and details of the decision taken by the Chief Executive and Director of Resources can be viewed on the county council's website [here](#).

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk management**

N/A

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
Approval of the Council's Statement of Accounts 2020/21	21 December 2021	Hannah Race Tel: 01772 530655

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A