

Report

Report to:	Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board
Date of Meeting:	7 September 2020
Report by:	Treasurer to Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board

Subject:	Audited Accounts 2019/2020 and External Auditors' Report to the Board
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise members of the outcome of the audit by the Board's external auditor, Audit Scotland
- ◆ advise members of the requirement to approve the Audited Accounts for 2019/2020 for signature

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that it be noted that the Accounts 2019/2020 received a clean audit certificate (section 4.3.);
- (2) that the audited Accounts 2019/2020, be approved for signature (Appendix 1); and
- (3) that it be noted that the audited Accounts 2019/2020 will be available on the Board's website (section 4.4).

3. Background

3.1. The Board's external auditor, Audit Scotland, is required to supply an audit certificate outlining the findings of the audit process undertaken in relation to the Accounts 2019/2020.

3.2. Following the publication of The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, the members of the Board have to meet to consider whether to approve the audited Accounts for signature. This year, the deadline for approval is 30 November, due to an extension to the usual 30 September deadline, as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The members are also required to have regard to any report made or advice provided on the Accounts by the auditor.

4. Audited Accounts

4.1. As noted in 3.2. above, members are now required to approve the audited Accounts for signature. Appendix 1 attached provides a copy of the Accounts for members' consideration.

- 4.2. As detailed in a previous report, the Board's current external auditors, Audit Scotland, have completed an audit which extends across the 2019/2020 Accounts and related matters.
- 4.3. In summary, the report provides a clean audit certificate. There were no issues arising from the 2019/2020 audit work which merited a recommendation or action plan point.
- 4.4. The audited Accounts for 2019/2020 will be uploaded to the Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board website. Paper copies are also available on request from Finance Services, Floor 4, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton or from the Assessor's office at the Hamilton Academicals' Stadium.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The financial details of the Auditor's report are contained within section 4 above.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no climate change, sustainability or environmental implications in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The main risk associated with the Board's Annual Report and Accounts is a qualified audit report. The risk was minimised by the detailed preparation in relation to the year end process and training undertaken by key finance staff. Finance and the Board's staff work together to achieve key deadlines and actions set from timetables. This has resulted in a clean audit certificate.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in the report.

Paul Manning
Treasurer

20 August 2020

Previous References

- ♦ Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board Unaudited Annual Report and Accounts 2019/2020 (Board Meeting, 1 June 2020)

List of Background Papers

- ♦ External Auditor's report

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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