

# **Cherwell District Council**

## **Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee**

**25 May 2022**

### **2021/22 Accounting Policies**

#### **Report of the Assistant Director of Finance (S151 Officer)**

This report is a public report

#### **Purpose of report**

To ask the Committee to review and approve the Accounting Policies for inclusion in the 2021/22 Statement of Accounts.

#### **1.0 Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To approve the accounting policies as approved by the Chief Finance Officer (Appendix 1).

#### **2.0 Introduction**

- 2.1 All local authorities must produce a statement of accounts annually to help ensure that there is appropriate stewardship of public finances. Statements of accounts are produced according to accounting standards to ensure that they are produced on a consistent standard and are comparable with other statements of accounts. Local Authority statements of accounts are produced by following the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). The Code occasionally overrides accounting standards where statute takes precedence over accounting standards.

#### **3.0 Report Details**

- 3.1 The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee are required to approve the Accounting Policies for inclusion in the draft statement of accounts. The draft statement of accounts for 2021/22 must be published by 30 July 2022. Officers expect to publish to the Council's website a draft of the statement of accounts by the end of June. The draft accounts will then be presented to the next meeting of the Committee in July 2022.

- 3.2 The notes to the accounts provide supporting information and additional detail for the main financial statements. Note 1 sets out the Council's Accounting Policies (Appendix 1). The Council is required to set accounting policies which set out the specific principles, bases, conventions, rules, and practices applied by an authority in preparing and presenting financial statements. The accounting policies describe how the Council has interpreted and applied the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.
- 3.3 The code states that The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for selecting 'suitable' accounting policies and ensuring that they are applied consistently in the preparation of the statement of accounts. The 2021/22 Accounting Policies, as set out in Appendix 1, have been approved by the Chief Finance Officer. All significant accounting policies have been selected with reference to the Code.
- 3.4 There have been no material changes to the accounting policies for 2021/22.

## **4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

- 4.1 Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee is invited to review and ratify the Accounting Policies for 2021/22.

## **5.0 Implications**

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

Comments checked by: Lynsey Parkinson, Finance Business Partner - Corporate, 01295 221739, [Lynsey.Parkinson@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Lynsey.Parkinson@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2 The accounting policies in this report have been approved by the Council's Chief Financial Officer (Assistant Director of Finance). Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and appoint an officer to have responsibility for those arrangements.

Comments checked by: Helen Lolas, Team Leader and Solicitor, Tel: 07801 400 941, Email: [Helen.Lolas@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Lolas@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### **Risk Implications**

- 5.3 There are no risk management implications arising directly from this report

Comments checked by: Celia Prado-Teeling, Interim Assistant Director – Customer Focus, 01295 221556, [Celia.Prado-Teeling@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Celia.Prado-Teeling@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

## **Equalities and Inclusion Implications**

5.4 There are equalities implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

Celia Prado-Teeling, Interim Assistant Director – Customer Focus  
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## **6.0 Decision Information**

**Key Decision** N/A

**Financial Threshold Met:** N/A

**Community Impact Threshold Met:** N/A

### **Wards Affected**

All

### **Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework**

All

### **Lead Councillor**

N/A

## **Document Information**

### **Appendix number and title**

- 1 – Accounting Policies 2021/22

### **Background papers**

None

### **Report Author and contact details**

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