

## **Audit and Standards Committee Chair's Report to 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Full Council**

The Audit and Standards Committee held an additional meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November to approve the audited Statement of Accounts for 2021/22.

I am grateful to Councillor Baker for chairing the meeting in my absence and for signing off the Statement of Accounts and the Letter of Representation from the Head of Finance & Property to Grant Thornton (the external auditors). The committee also received a copy of the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 signed by the Leader and Chief Executive.

The committee was pleased that the Council had complied with its statutory duty to publish the draft Statement of Accounts by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 and that it would meet the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022 deadline for the publication of the audited Statement of Accounts.

The external auditors confirmed that they were satisfied that the accounts present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position and looks forward to the outcome of a separate review of Value for Money (VfM) being presented at the January meeting.

Finally I would like to thank Councillor Baker for his commitment and contribution to the committee as Vice-chair as he stands down from the position, as agreed at the last Council meeting, due to his position as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Lord Wajid Khan, Audit and Standards Committee Chair – December 2022.