



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND DECISION MAKING

Audit Committee 25 July 2019

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

DELAY IN THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2018/19

Report of Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Audit Committee the on-going in the audit of the Statement and Financial Statements for 2018/19.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the suggested wording for publication on the Council's website

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

- 3.1 In accordance with Accounts and Audit regulations 2015, the council must publish a set of accounts by the 31 July of the year of audit. This is normally expected to be audited version of the accounts. This has not been possible for 2019 due to our external auditors, Ernst and Yong LLP, having considerable resource pressures nationally. This has meant that a suitable audit team was not available to complete the audit of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's financial statements before the 31 July deadline. Appendix 1 has further details supplied by our External Auditors.

- 3.2 Where the 31 July deadline cannot be met, it is possible replace the deadline date with as soon as reasonably practicable after the receipt of the External Auditors report on the accounts. However, the Council still has to publish a set of accounts on its website for the 31 July deadline explaining that the published accounts remain unaudited. The wording below has been agreed with the auditors for this purposes:

"The external audit of the draft statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019 has not yet been completed by our external auditors, EY LLP, due to EY's resourcing pressures. This situation is allowed for by Regulation 10, paragraph (2a) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. (See attached link: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/234/regulation/10/made>). Therefore, this notification explains, as per paragraph (2a), that we are not yet able to publish our audited 2018/19 final statement of accounts in line with deadline of 31st July 2019, as per paragraph (1). The audit committee will consider the results of the 2018/19 audit at its meeting on 5 September 2019, after which we will publish the final audited accounts."

4. EXEMPTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION
PROCEDURE RULES

4.1 Report taken in open session.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [AW]

5.1 Contained within the body of the report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None.

7. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 None.

9. RISK IMPLICATIONS

9.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

9.3 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment: None

10. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report

11. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 By submitting this report, the report author has considered the following:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| - Community Safety implications | - Procurement implications |
| - Environmental implications | - Human Resources implications |
| - ICT implications | - Planning implications |
| - Asset Management implications | - Data Protection implications |
| | - Voluntary Sector |

Background papers: Civica Reports

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