

# ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT TO AND DECISION OF AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE ON 25 FEBRUARY 2021

### PART A: REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Accounting Policies 2020/21

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Angela Curry, Capital Accountant

**DATE:** 18/01/2021

**EXTN:** 37568

**PORTFOLIO AREA:** Corporate Support

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The report allows the Audit and Governance Committee to consider and approve the accounting policies that will be applied to the Statement of Accounts 2020/21. At the time of writing this report the deadline for completion of the draft accounts is 31 May 2021 and approval of the final audited accounts 31 July 2021, however this is currently out to consultation which could see the deadline for approval moved to 30 September 2021. Members will be updated once more information is available.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is requested to approve the accounting policies that will be applied to the Statement of Accounts 2020/21.

#### 1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 It is the responsibility of the charged with governance (the Audit and Governance Committee) to consider and agree the accounting policies to be applied to the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.
- 1.2 The Statement of Accounts sets out the Council's income and expenditure for the year, and its financial position at 31 March 2021.

#### 2. PROPOSAL(S):

- 2.1 The Accounting policies are the specific principles, bases and conventions, rules and practices applied by the Council in preparing and presenting the financial statements. The accounting policies included in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 It should be noted that it is recommended practice for Council's to only adopt Accounting Policies that are relevant to their Statement of Accounts. If during the preparation of the Accounts and external audit issues arise that require

additions to the adopted policies the committee will be updated of any subsequent changes.

### 3. OPTIONS:

Accounting policies are a statutory requirement and therefore the Committee is requested to approve the accounting policies that will be applied to the Statement of Accounts 2020/21.

### 4. CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓
5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)	YES	NO
Financial	✓	
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓

### 6. IMPLICATIONS:

The Accounting Policies will be applied to the Statement of Accounts 2020/21.

### 7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:

To ensure that the Statement of Accounts is prepared using proper accounting practices as required by the Local Government Act 2003.

### 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

The code of Practice on Local Authority on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 Accounts (CIPFA)

Prudential Code (CIPFA)