

AM 571-20

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY MEETING – 15 OCTOBER 2020

DRAFT FINANCIAL REPORT 2019/20 (Including the Annual Governance Statement)

Report by: Nigel Stone, Chief Finance Officer

Purpose:

- 1 To present the draft Financial Report 2019/20, including the Annual Governance Statement, Accounting Policies and Letter of Representation.

Summary:

- 2 This report contains the latest draft of the Authority's Financial Report for the 2019/20 financial year – **Annex 1** (previously known as the Statement of Accounts). This document has been subjected to full external audit scrutiny. The core financial results, draft Accounting Policies and draft Annual Governance Statement were considered and recommended for approval by the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee on 1 June 2020. Members will also need to approve the Letter of Representation set out in **Annex 2**.
- 3 There are a few matters currently outstanding which have yet to be determined and agreed with our Auditors.

We will fully update Members on further progress, and make clear any matters still outstanding, at the Authority meeting - it is considered unlikely that all the queries will be finally concluded by that time. The Authority and Auditors have up until 30 November to finalise if required.

- 4 Following settlement of the outstanding issues identified above, the Financial Report, Governance Statement and Letter of Representation will be officially signed by the Chairman and Officers, as agreed with our Auditors.

Recommendation:

That the Financial Report, the Accounting Policies and Annual Governance Statement contained therein, and the Letter of Representation be approved, subject to any further changes required in relation to the outstanding issues identified at the meeting for which delegation is given for these to be mutually agreed by the Chief Finance Officer, Chief Executive and Chairman.

Papers:

AM 571-20	Cover paper
AM 571-20 Annex 1	Draft Financial Report 2019/20
AM 571-20 Annex 2	Draft Letter of Representation

Equality and Diversity Implications:

There are no specific equality or diversity implications arising out of this report.

Contact:

Nigel Stone
Chief Finance Officer
Tel: 01590 646655
Email: nigel.stone@newforestnpa.gov.uk