

Report to: Governance and Audit Committee

Date: 29 March 2018

Subject: **2017/18 Annual Accounts Year End**

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1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Committee on the year-end procedures for the 2017/18.

2 Information

- 2.1 Planning is underway for the 2017/18 annual accounts, with detailed working papers, procedures and timetable in place. The overall timetable has been brought forward for public authorities and the key milestone dates are as follows:

- 13 April 2018 - all year end processing is closed for non-finance staff;
- 3 May 2018 - final outturn figures available for reporting;
- 31 May 2018 - draft accounts are completed and published on the website for public inspection;
- 4 June 2018 – external audit commences;
- Xx July 2018 (date to be confirmed) – audited accounts signed by Governance and Audit Committee.
- 31 July 2018 - final deadline for 2017/18 final audited accounts.

Annual Governance Statement

- 2.2 The annual accounts include the Annual Governance Statement which in turn requires the approval of this Committee. Attached to this report at **Appendix 1** is the 2016/17 statement for information and reference. Work is underway to consider the changes and updates required and are likely to include the following:

- LEP Governance arrangement changes.
- Combined Authority governance changes.
- Internal audit annual report findings.

- Code of Corporate Governance updates.
- Key policy, procedural and systems changes during 2017/18.

2.3 The Committee is asked to consider the Annual Governance Statement and provide feedback on changes that should be reflected in the 2017/18 version.

2.4 The final version will form part of the 2017/18 annual accounts and will require formal approval at the July 2018 meeting, the date of which is to be confirmed.

2.5 The paper brought to the last meeting of this Committee by Mazars set out a number of questions regarding arrangements in place to prevent and detect fraud and to comply with applicable laws and regulations. A draft response is attached as **Appendix 2** for consideration and approval.

3 Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

4 Legal Implications

4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

5 Staffing Implications

5.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

6 External Consultees

6.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

7 Recommendations

7.1 That the Committee provide feedback on the key changes to be included in the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement.

8 Background Documents

None.

9 Appendices

Appendix 1 - WYCA Annual Governance Statement 2016/17

Appendix 2 - Draft response from those charged with governance.