

**REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – 27 JUNE 2013**

**UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2012/13**

**1 Recommendations**

**1.1 The Council is recommended to:-**

- 1 Consider the Statement of Accounts 2012/13; and**
- 2 Approve the submission of the unaudited Statement of Accounts for 2012/13 to Audit Scotland and Deloitte;**

**2 Discussion**

- 2.1 Aberdeenshire Council has a statutory responsibility to prepare its Statement of Accounts by 30 June, following the 31 March financial year end. The Statement of Accounts complies with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).
- 2.2 The unaudited Statement of Accounts should be presented to Councillors prior to being passed to Audit Scotland and Deloitte and advertised for public inspection.
- 2.3 The Statement of Accounts is a complex document, which complies fully with Accounting Standards, but this does not always lead to ease of interpretation. There are very few changes to the Code for the 2012/13 accounts, so there is little difference in the format when compared to the 2011/12 accounts.
- 2.4 A summary of the main financial results is considered in a separate report on the agenda on Revenue Budget Monitoring to 31 March 2013.
- 2.5 Councillors are asked to consider the accounts, approve the submission of the unaudited accounts to Audit Scotland to allow the formal audit process to commence and allow the Council to meet the statutory deadline of 30 June.
- 2.6 Statutory trading accounts were first introduced for the 2003/04 financial year. These accounts are required to break even over a rolling three year period. The Council now has one statutory trading account for Roads Operations. This activity achieved its statutory break even target for the period 2010 – 2013.
- 2.7 The Statement of Assurance has now been renamed as the Governance Statement. It provides assurance on the governance of Aberdeenshire Council's affairs and the stewardship of the resources at its disposal. The Statement confirms that reasonable assurance can be placed on the effectiveness of the Council's control systems. No concerns are expressed in this year's Governance Statement.

2.8 The Monitoring Officer within Corporate Services and the Management Team have been consulted and have no adverse comments.

### **3 Equalities, Financial and Staffing Implications**

3.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the reason for this report is to allow the Council to discuss and comment on historical and factual data in the accounts and there will be no differential impact, as a result of this report, on people with protected characteristics.

3.2 The financial implications are set out in detail in the report on Revenue Monitoring to 31 March 2013, which is a separate report on today's agenda. There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

**Alan Wood**  
**Head of Finance**

Report prepared by Ross Brennan, Chief Accountant  
27 May 2013