

North York Moors National Park Authority

25 September 2017

Statement of Final Accounts 2016/17

<p>1. Purpose of the Report</p>
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| <p>1.1 To present to Members a Draft Statement of Final Accounts for the year 2016/17 for approval.</p> |
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2. **Statement of Accounts 2016/17**

- 2.1 As a result of the Environment Act 1995 the North York Moors National Park Authority is recognised as a separate corporate body which is required to produce its own Statement of Final Accounts (SOFA).
- 2.2 As per financial regulations the draft SOFA was signed by the Section 51 Officer prior to the deadline of 30 June 2017 and the final audited SOFA is attached in **Appendix A**. The format and content of this document complies with the CIPFA IFRS Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (The Code). The Code sets out the proper accounting practice required for the SOFA, within the statutory framework of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.
- 2.3 The Annual Governance Statement, which is incorporated within the SOFA and this has been discussed and reviewed by the Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee on 5 June 2017.
- 2.4 There have been no significant changes to accounting policies in 2016/17.

3. **Closedown Timetable**

- 3.1 Currently the SOFA must be certified by the Section 151 Officer by 30 June and approved by the Authority in advance of the certification and publication of the Accounts by 30 September.
- 3.2 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 set out the requirement to accelerate the certification and publication of the accounts from 2017/18 onwards, so that draft annual accounts are produced by 31 May and audited, approved and published by 31 July following the end of the financial year.
- 3.3 In order to ensure compliance with the requirements of the new Accounts and Audit Regulations the Authority has been working to a revised timetable for the 2016/17 closure of accounts process and the draft SOFA was produced by 31 May 2017, which is in line with the statutory deadlines set for 2017/18.

4. **Audit of Accounts**

- 4.1 The SOFA has been audited by KPMG this year – the Audit fieldwork took place in July and August 2017. There have been no major changes to the draft SOFA as a result of the audit and the Independent Auditors Report is detailed on pages 8 - 11 of the SOFA.

