

For Decision	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Audit and Scrutiny Panel
Date of Meeting:	30th June 2016
Report of:	Chief Finance Officer
Report Author:	Charlotte Radford
Other Contacts:	
Agenda Item:	12

UPDATE ON THE CLOSE OF ACCOUNTS 2015-16

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To assure members that the process for closing the accounts is progressing well.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That members of the Audit & Scrutiny Panel review the draft statements of accounts and provide feedback or ask questions of the CFO by the 31st July. This will ensure assurance is provided prior to the final statements being produced.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Good governance and financial management

4. Summary of Key Points

- 4.1 Each year the draft statement of accounts is provided to the Audit & Scrutiny panel members for their comments prior to the final version being provided to the panel in September. The latest DRAFT statement of accounts will be tabled at the meeting or issued to members on the 30th June.
- 4.2 This year the draft accounts have been produced using the new accounting system. This significant change has been possible thanks to the hard work of the finance team and the assistance provided by Cheshire Police Finance team and the MFSS team.
- 4.3 This has been a key year for ensuring that the system can provide the necessary detail for the closedown process, particularly with the early closure of accounts by 2018.
- 4.4 It will be necessary to undertake a post closure review to ensure the process can be brought forward in 2017 as a step change to having audited final accounts by the end of July in 2018.

5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

5.1 None as a direct result of this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

6.1 None as a direct result of this report.

7. Equality Implications

7.1 None as a direct result of this report.

8. Risk Management

8.1 None as a direct result of this report.

9. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

9.1 None as a direct result of this report.

10. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

10.1 None as a direct result of this report.

11. Details of outcome of consultation

11.1 Not applicable

12. Appendices

12.1 A - Draft Statement of Accounts 2015-16 (to follow)