

## London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

**Report to:** Audit Committee

**Date:** 13/03/2023

**Subject:** Statement of Accounts 2021/22 – Audit Progress Report

**Report of:** Christopher Harris, Head of Finance – Corporate Accountancy and Finance Systems

**Responsible Director:** Sukvinder Kalsi, Director of Finance

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### SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the progress of the audit of the 2021/22 accounts and the finalisation of the 2020/21 accounts.

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the contents of the external auditor's Audit Progress Report (Appendix 1).
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**Wards Affected:** All

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### H&F Values

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	The Statement of Accounts details the authority's financial activity for the year and forms the cornerstone of fiscal responsibility and control together with the attainment of value for money.

### Financial Impact

This report is for information only and consequently there are no direct financial implications. The report does however concern the audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts and in that regard is wholly of a financial nature.

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### Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications in relation to this report.

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**Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report**

None.

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**Statement of Accounts 2021/22**

1. The 2021/22 draft Statement of Accounts were published in July 2022, in accordance with statutory deadlines, and are available on the Council's website here:

[https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section\\_attachments/hf-unaudited-statement-of-accounts-2021-22.pdf](https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section_attachments/hf-unaudited-statement-of-accounts-2021-22.pdf)

2. It is anticipated that the final accounts will be presented to the Audit Committee in June 2023 further to the completion of external audit work and the presentation of the external auditor's Audit Findings Report (see below).

**Audit Progress Report**

3. The Council is externally audited by Grant Thornton UK LLP ("GT"). GT have provided an audit progress report attached at appendix 1.
4. The report provides an update on work completed to date in respect of the audit of the 2021/22 accounts and a summary of areas outstanding.
5. GT anticipate finalising audit work in the coming weeks and plan to present their Audit Findings Report to the June 2023 Audit Committee.
6. The report also provides a short update on the finalisation of the 2020/21 accounts.

**LIST OF APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 – Grant Thornton/London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham – Audit Progress Report March 2023