

**Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint Committee**

**23 July 2010**

**Agenda Item No 14**

<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>Assistant Director - Planning &amp; Development Strategy CBC – Trevor Saunders</b>  <b>Senior Financial Advisor CBC – Phil Robinson</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>The 2009/10 Annual Statement of Accounts and current budget position update.</b>
<b>PURPOSES</b>	<b>To seek approval from Members for the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts and to update the Committee on the current budget position and to consider future budget requirements.</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>1) That the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2009/10 is approved subject to audit.</b>  <b>2) That the Joint Committee budget position for 2010/11 and future years be noted together with the dependency on the existing revenue budgets of the two core authorities to meet the supporting employee and additional costs incurred in the preparation of the joint Local Development Framework.</b>
<b>REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>The Accounts &amp; Audit Regulations 2003 require that the 2008/09 Statement of Accounts is approved by the Joint Committee.</b>  <b>The budget position will enable the Committee to plan its future work programme and resources.</b>

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Accounts & Audit Regulations 2003 require that the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts is approved by the Joint Committee. It is not a process that can be performed by the respective Executive committees.

- 1.2 The Joint Committee's external auditors will begin their examination of the accounts on the 1 July 2010 and need to complete this by September 2010. The accounts and Annual Governance Statement are therefore submitted for approval, subject to audit.
- 1.3 The Annual Governance Statement sets out the control framework that this Council works within and gives the reader of the accounts the guarantee that the accounts represent fairly the financial position of the Council.
- 1.4 Central Bedfordshire Council with effect from 1 April 2009 is acting as lead authority in respect of accounting arrangements. A copy of the Statement of Accounts is set out in Appendix A.
- 1.5 An updated budget statement for 2010/11 and 2011/12 is set out in Appendix B. This will be kept under review with the JTU Manager and the Member Steering Group during 2010/11.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Statement of Accounts

Appendix B – Budget Statement for 2010/11 and 2011/12