

**Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint Committee**

**24 June 2011**

**Agenda Item No 11.**

<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>Assistant Director - Planning CBC – Trevor Saunders</b> <b>Senior Financial Advisor CBC – Phil Robinson</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>The 2010/11 Annual Statement of Accounts and current budget position update.</b>
<b>PURPOSES</b>	<b>To seek approval from Members for the 2010/11 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 is approved subject to audit as set out in Appendix A.</b> <b>2) That the Small Bodies Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2011 as signed by the Chairman is approved subject to audit as set out in Appendix B.</b> <b>3) That the Joint Committee budget position for 2011/12 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 as set out in Appendix C.</b>
<b>REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>The Accounts &amp; Audit Regulations 2003 (as amended) require that the 2010/11 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 and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 require that the 2010/11 Statement of Accounts is approved by the Joint Committee before 30 June immediately following the end of a year.
- 1.2 The Joint Committee's external auditors will begin their examination of the accounts on the 8 July 2011 and need to complete this by September 2011. 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 the Joint Committee works within and gives the reader of the accounts the assurance that the accounts represent fairly the financial position of the Committee.
- 1.4 Central Bedfordshire Council with effect from 1 April 2009 is acting as lead authority in respect of accounting arrangements. Copies of the Statement of Accounts and the Small Bodies Annual Return are set out in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 1.5 An updated budget statement for 2011/12 is set out in Appendix C. This will be kept under review with the JTU Manager and the Member Steering Group during 2011/12.