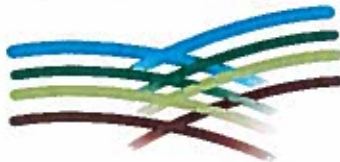


ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Comprising Council Areas:
Ballymena Borough Council
Ballymoney Borough Council
Coleraine Borough Council
Larne Borough Council
Moyle District Council

north east region



supporting our rural communities

North East Region Joint Committee
For the year ended 31st March 2015



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Explanatory Foreword

Introduction

The Joint Committee's financial performance for the year ended 31st March 2015 is as set out in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and its financial position is as set out in the Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement.

These financial statements have been prepared in line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 (the Code) and the Department of the Environment Accounts Direction, Circular LG15/15. It is the purpose of this foreword to explain, in an easily understandable way the financial facts in relation to the Joint Committee.

This Statement of Accounts explains the Joint Committee's finances during the financial year 2014/15 and its financial position at the end of that year. It follows approved accounting standards and is necessarily technical in parts.

Group Accounts

The Code requires Local Authorities to consider all their interests and to prepare a full set of group financial statements where they have material interests in subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. North East Region Joint Committee does not have material interests in such bodies and accordingly is not required to prepare group financial statements.

Financial Report

The Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2015 have been prepared in line with The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in The United Kingdom 2014/15 (the Code) and the Department of the Environment Accounts Direction, Circular LG15/15. It is the purpose of this foreword to explain, in an easily understandable way the financial facts in relation to the Joint Committee for this period.

The financial statements explain the Joint Committee's finances during the financial year ended 31st March 2015 and its financial position at the end of that year.

The following statements provide further information:

- The Movement in Reserves Statement, as set out on page 17, shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Joint Committee. The surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Joint Committee's services.
- The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as set out on page 18, shows the income earned and the expenditure incurred during the year by the Joint Committee in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. This includes details of funding received from Government bodies and participating Councils, together with details of administrative expenditure incurred by the Joint Committee and financial assistance provided to beneficiaries.
- The Balance Sheet, as set out on page 19, shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the Joint Committee's assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Joint Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Joint Committee.
- The Cash Flow Statement, as set out on page 20, shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the joint committee during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Joint Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.

For the year ended 31st March 2015 the Joint Committee accounted for grant income of £260,343, Council contributions of £185 and incurred total costs of £260,528. The financial activities of the Joint Committee are wholly funded by Government Bodies and the participating Councils, therefore resulting in a £nil surplus/deficit for the year.

North East Region Joint Committee do not make any direct payments to project promoters as DARD make all such payments. In the year to the 31st March 2015 £2,531,521 (2014: £3,541,278) of financial assistance was paid out by DARD in relation to projects processed by the Joint Committee.

Legislative Context for Preparation and Audit of the Financial Statements

The Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005, Article 3, defines a joint committee of two or more councils to be a local government body and provides that:

The accounts of every local authority government body shall be:

- a) made up to the end of each financial year; and
- b) audited in accordance with this Part by a local government auditor designated by the Department, after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland'.

Article 24 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 provides that the Department may issue regulations as to accounts and audit. In this regard the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 were made on 7 March 2006.

The Accounts Direction, issued by the Department of the Environment on 1st April 2015 under Regulation 4 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations 2006 requires the Joint Committee to prepare accounts. These financial statements cover the period from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 and have been prepared in compliance with the Direction.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Local Government Reform

From 1st April 2015, the Joint Committee will cease to exist and its functions will be transferred to the new Council Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council combines the previous councils of Ballymena, Larne and Carrickfergus into one new body constituted under the framework established by the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Under regulation 11 of the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, the new council will designate an officer as having responsibility for the winding up of its predecessor Joint Committees.

This designated officer will have responsibility for the preparation of final statements of account for the Joint Committee in a form directed by the Department under regulation 4 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.

These accounts are prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

The Chief Financial Officer of the lead council is responsible for the preparation, signing and dating of the statement of accounts for the Joint Committee. Since the lead council ceases on 31 March 2015, Regulation 9 of the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 provides that the activities of the lead council will be continued by the new council i.e. that council in which the lead council was a predecessor council. As such, for the purpose of complying with the requirements of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, the attached Direction will require that the Chief Financial Officer should be that of the new council. Regulation 1(2) of the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 notes that, in relation to a new council, an existing council is a "predecessor council" if the whole or the major part of the district of the existing council is, in accordance with section 1 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 as in force immediately prior to the making of the Local Government (Boundaries) (2008 Act) (Commencement, Transitional Provision and Savings) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013, to be incorporated in the district of the new council.

Statement of the Joint Committee's and the Chief Financial Officer's responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Joint Committee's Responsibilities

Under Section 1 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 a Council shall make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs. A council shall designate an officer of the council as its Chief Financial Officer. Arrangements made by a council for the proper administration of its financial affairs shall be carried out under the supervision of its Financial Officer. The Joint Committee has adopted a similar arrangement and the Chief Financial Officer for the Administrative (Lead) Council undertakes equivalent duties for the Joint Committee.

Under Regulation 5 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 the Joint Committee is required by resolution to approve the accounts.

These accounts were approved by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee of the Lead Council on behalf of the Joint Committee on 29th June 2015.

The Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

Under Regulation 4(1) of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Joint Committee's Statement of Accounts in the form directed by the Department of the Environment.

The accounts must give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year.

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chief Financial Officer is required to:-

- observe the Accounts Direction issued by the Department of the Environment including compliance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom as amended and augmented from time to time as appropriate;
- follow relevant accounting and disclosure requirements and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis; and
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The Chief Financial Officer is also required to:-

- keep proper accounting records that are up-to-date; and
- take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Governance Statement

Introduction

The Joint Committee is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Joint Committee also has a duty under Local Government (Best Value) Act (NI) 2002 to make arrangements for continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Joint Committee is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

The Joint Committee is required to prepare an Annual Governance Statement, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. This statement explains how the Joint Committee meets the requirements of Regulation 2A of the Local Government Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland 2006) in relation to the publication of a statement on internal control.

The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values, by which the Joint Committee is directed and controlled and the activities through which the Joint Committee accounts to and engages with the community. It enables the Joint Committee to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Joint Committee's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place for the financial period ended 31st March 2015 from the 1 April 2015 to the date of approval of the financial statements, the governance arrangements are those of the new Lead Council, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

The Governance Framework

This section provides a summary of the key elements of the systems and processes that comprise the Joint Committee's governance arrangements. As noted on page 8, the governance arrangements for the Joint Committee are set out in the Consortium Agreement and are supported by the overall governance framework set by Ballymena Borough Council, in its role as Lead Council.

The Acting Town Clerk and Chief Executive for the Lead Council has responsibility for maintaining a system of sound internal controls and risk management processes to support the Joint Committee in the achievement of all conditions in the Letter of Offer, and for reviewing their effectiveness. The systems of controls are based on a continual process designed to identify the principal risks to the achievement of the project objectives, to evaluate the nature and extent of those risks and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

Overall control of the governance framework and system of internal controls is the responsibility of the Joint Committee.

Arrangements for undertaking the core functions of an Audit Committee, as identified in CIPFA's Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities

The Lead Council has in place an Audit Committee whose overall purpose and objective is to assist Council in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. The Audit Committee, which meets at least four times each year, has responsibility for reviewing:

- The system of internal control and management of risks;
- The financial reporting process;
- The internal and external audit process;
- Council's processes for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations; and
- Council's processes for monitoring compliance with its own Standing Orders, policies and procedures.

The Lead Council's Audit Committee remit is not to act as the Audit Committee for the Joint Committee. Instead, it oversees the role of Ballymena Borough Council as Lead Council of the Joint Committee. All governance and audit issues are reported directly to the Joint Committee.

Any reviews carried out by the Lead Council's Internal Audit provider that identifies any issues relating to the Joint Committee are also reported to the Audit Committee.

Arrangements for ensuring compliance with relevant laws and regulations, internal policies and procedures, and that expenditure is lawful

The Joint Committee and Funding (Managing Authority) regularly review progress made and issues arising by way of periodic progress reports, interim reports and final reports. Improved processes regarding eligibility of expenditure, compliance with Letters of Offer and the issue of amendments have been reviewed, updated and implemented during the 2014/15 financial year.

The Contract between the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development and Joint Committee sets out the Chief Financial Officer as the designated officer responsible for the proper administration of the Joint Committee's financial affairs.

The Acting Town Clerk and Chief Executive of Ballymena Borough Council acting as Lead Council is also the Chief Financial Officer of the Joint Committee, as outlined in Section 54 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972. The Chief Financial Officer is charged with ensuring the lawfulness and financial prudence of decision-making, providing advice and guidance and ensuring that expenditure incurred is lawful.

The Joint Committee's financial management arrangements do not comply with Principle 5 " The CFO in a local authority must be a professionally qualified and equitably experienced" of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2010) as set out in the Application Note to Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework, as the Joint Committee's designated Chief Financial Officer is not a professionally qualified accountant and the role of Chief Financial Officer and Acting Town Clerk and Chief Executive are not separate within the Lead Council. The arrangements presently in place are not considered to compromise the Joint Committee's financial management arrangements in any way as the Chief Financial Officer is supported by the Acting Director of Finance and Support Services and by the Joint Committee's Finance Officer who are both fully qualified accountants, to ensure that the decisions made by the Chief Financial Officer are based on sound technical knowledge and understanding. This arrangement complies with the current legislation in Northern Ireland - section 1 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

All expenditure of the Joint Committee is subject to external audit by the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development. NER adheres to the Financial Control code and Standing Orders of the Lead Council. The Lead Councils Financial Control code and Standing Orders were last revised in April and June 2013 respectively. These documents detail the processes and controls that exist for all financial transactions in the Council and are available to staff via publication on the Council's internal computer network drive. All payments to be made by the Lead Council are reviewed by two members of the Audit Committee prior to approval at the monthly council meeting.

The Lead Council retain a panel of specialist legal advisors to provide expertise, advice and guidance as required. In addition, recommendations as outlined in internal and external audit reports enable the Lead Council to ensure compliance is maintained.

The Lead Council has a Corporate Risk register and Service Risk register which are reviewed by Directors and Heads of Service on a quarterly basis and presented to the Audit Committee on a rolling basis throughout the year. Any potential risks associated with the Joint Committee are reported to Council by the Director responsible for the management of the Joint Committee.

Arrangements for whistle-blowing and for receiving and investigating complaints from the public

The Lead Council's Whistleblowing Policy was last revised in May 2013, a copy of which is published on the Council's website and sets out whistle-blowing arrangements. The procedure sets out the arrangements where employees wish to make disclosures whilst remaining protected from action by their employer.

The Lead Council has a corporate complaints system which records all complaints, comments and compliments from the public. This system is resourced by a Customer Services Officer and has a mechanism to report to Senior Management.

These arrangements extend to the role of Ballymena Borough Council as Lead Council to the Joint Committee.

Review of effectiveness

The Joint Committee has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Joint Committee's Officers, who have responsibility for supporting the Committee in the development and maintenance of the governance environment and also by recommendations made by auditors from the Managing Authority, DARD, the Audit Authority and other external auditors.

Overall control of the governance framework and system of internal controls is the responsibility of the Joint Committee. Regular meetings, policy documents and periodic progress reports enable the Joint Committee to examine and evaluate the progress made and address issues affecting the implementation of the JC Plan.

The Clerk and Chief Executive for the Lead Council has responsibility for the preparation of this Annual Governance Statement, as well as the Lead Partner Assurance Statement for submission to DARD, as the Managing Authority. In preparing this statement, they have considered the governance framework and system of internal controls in place.

In undertaking this review account has been taken of Guidance on the Local (Accounts and Audit) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 issued by the Department of the Environment in February 2008. The Acting Town Clerk & Chief Executive of Ballymena Borough Council leads the Council's Senior Management Team to collectively have involvement in and oversight of the processes involved in maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of the governance framework, this includes the delivery of the Council's responsibilities as Lead Council for the North East Region Joint Committee. Progress on the implementation of the JC Plan and issues arising are reviewed and reported to the Lead Partner Council by way of Council reports.

In producing this statement, full regard has been made to Ballymena Borough Council's Corporate Risk Register and to Statements of Assurance provided by each Director to the Acting Town Clerk & Chief Executive for the year ended 31st March 2015.

Internal Audit services are provided to the Lead Council by Moore Stephens Auditors under contract. Internal Audit provides an independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's system of internal control. This extends to reviewing the arrangements in place for JC Projects, which will be reviewed on a periodic basis as part of an on-going programme of work. Internal Audit reports any deficiencies in internal control to Senior Management Team whose responsibility it is to consider any recommendations made and to take necessary remedial action. The results of the work of Internal Audit are also reported to the Lead Council's Audit Committee at least four times each year to ensure that continuous improvements take place. These reports to Audit Committee include a follow-up report to ensure that actions previously agreed by the Management Team are implemented on a timely basis.

As part of the Lead Councils Internal Audit Programme for 2014/2015, a review of NER's controls and procedures was carried out by the Internal Auditors. This review provided the Joint Committee and Lead Council with a satisfactory level of assurance. The overall review of the Lead Councils controls and procedures for 2014/2015 was also satisfactory.

An annual review of the Internal Audit function has been carried out in accordance with the recommended checklist provided in the CIPFA Local Government Application Note for the UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS), 2013. This review was presented to the Audit Committee on 19 March 2015, along with the Internal Auditor's Annual Report and Statement of Opinion on Internal Control. Internal Audit reported a substantial level of compliance with the standards.

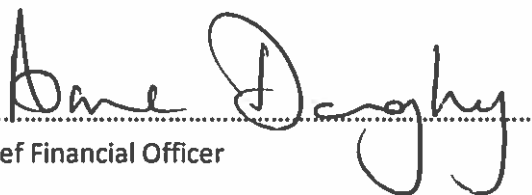
The Acting Town Clerk and Chief Executive for the Lead Council has advised the Joint Committee of the results and implications of the review of the effectiveness of the governance framework.

On-going review and update of the governance framework and internal controls will ensure continual improvement and a robust governance framework.

Significant governance issues

The North East Region Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 will be replaced by a Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 which is anticipated to commence during 2015. As a result of Local Government Reform which took place on 1st April 2015, the 5 Councils which made up the North East Region Joint Committee cease to exist, two of the Councils now form part of the Mid and East Antrim Council and the other three form part of Causeway Coast and Glens Council. The Lead Council has put in place an interim Committee consisting of four members from each of the new councils to assist it with overseeing the wind up of the programme. It is anticipated that the programme and this interim Committee will end in October 2015. The final accounts for the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 Joint Committee will therefore be for the 2015/2016 financial year.

Signature


.....
Chief Financial Officer

Date

29th June 2015.

Signature


.....
Chairman of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Date

29th June 2015.


Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that :-

- a) The Statement of Accounts for the financial period ended 31st March 2015 on pages 3 to 28 has been prepared in the form directed by the Department of the Environment and under the accounting policies set out on page 21.

- b) In my opinion the Statement of Accounts give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year.

Signature


.....
Chief Financial Officer

Date

29th June 2015.

Signature


.....
Chairman of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Date

29th June 2015.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST REGION JOINT COMMITTEE

I have audited the financial statements of North East Region Joint Committee for the year ended 31 March 2015 under the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005. The financial statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, and the related notes. The financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them.

This report is made solely to the Members of North East Region Joint Committee in accordance with the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and for no other purpose, as specified in the Statement of Responsibilities. Under the transitional arrangements set out in the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations Northern Ireland) 2014, the Mid and East Antrim Borough Council takes responsibility for the financial statements of the North East Region Joint Committee.

Respective responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer and the independent auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Joint Committee's and Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year. My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and the Local Government Code of Audit Practice. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the North East Region Joint Committee's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the North East Region Joint Committee; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Statement of Accounts to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with relevant legal and statutory requirements and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15, of the financial position of North East Region Joint Committee as at 31 March 2015 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 and the Department of the Environment directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion the information given in the Explanatory Foreword for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- The Annual Governance Statement:
 - does not reflect compliance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15;
 - does not comply with proper practices specified by the Department of the Environment; or
 - is misleading or inconsistent with other information I am aware of from my audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the statement of accounts is not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit.

Certificate

I certify that I have completed the audit of accounts of North East Region Joint Committee in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and the Local Government Code of Audit Practice.



Louise Mason

Local Government Auditor

Northern Ireland Audit Office

106 University Street

Belfast

BT7 1EU

Date

13 / 10 / 15

Movement in Reserves Statement

	Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
	£	£	£
At 1st April 2013	0	0	0
Movement in reserves during the year			
Surplus or deficit on provision of services	0	0	0
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0
At 31st March 2014	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Movement in reserves during the year			
Surplus or deficit on provision of services	0	0	0
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0
At 31st March 2015	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

	Notes	2014/15 £	2013/14 £
Income			
Government Grant	2a/2b & 4	260,343	294,346
Participating Councils	3	185	7
Total Income		<u>260,528</u>	<u>294,353</u>
Expenditure			
Staff Costs	7	207,766	243,715
Committee Member Costs		3,048	4,493
Premises Costs		13,450	13,992
Supplies and Services		21,589	12,807
Travel and Subsistence Costs		6,863	12,903
Administration Costs		7,812	6,443
		<u>260,528</u>	<u>294,353</u>
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Balance Sheet

	Notes	2015 £	2014 £
Long Term Assets		0	0
Short Term Investments		0	0
Inventories		0	0
Short Term Debtors	8	81,522	80,504
Cash and Cash Equivalents		0	0
Assets Held for Sale		0	0
Current Assets		81,522	80,504
Bank Overdraft		0	0
Short Term Borrowing		0	0
Short Term Creditors	9	81,522	80,504
Provisions		0	0
Current Liabilities		81,522	80,504
Long Term Liabilities		0	0
Net Assets		0	0
Usable Reserves		0	0
Unusable Reserves		0	0
Net Worth		0	0

Cash Flow Statement

	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services	0	0
Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing	10	0
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	0	0
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	0	0
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	0	0
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	0	0
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	0	0
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the reporting period	0	0

1 Accounting Policies**General Principles**

The Financial Statements summarise the Joint Committee's transactions for the 2014/15 financial year and its position at the end of 31st March 2015. The Joint Committee is required to prepare annual Financial Statements in a form directed by the Department of the Environment in accordance with regulations 4 (1) and (2) in the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15 supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Accruals of Income and Expenditure

The Financial Statements have been prepared on an accruals basis. The accruals basis of accounting requires the non-cash effect of transactions to be reflected in the Financial Statements for the year in which those effects are experienced and not in the year in which the cash is actually received or paid. This ensures that provision has been made for known outstanding debtors and creditors at the year end, estimated amounts being used where actual figures are not available.

2a Segmental Report - Current Year

	Administration	Total
	£	£
Income from Participating Councils	185	185
Government Grants	260,343	260,343
Total Income	260,528	260,528
Staff Costs	207,766	207,766
Committee Member Costs	3,048	3,048
Premises Costs	13,450	13,450
Supplies and Services	21,589	21,589
Travel and Subsistence Costs	6,863	6,863
Administration Costs	7,812	7,812
Total Expenditure	260,528	260,528
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0

2b Segmental Report - Prior Year

	Administration	Total
	£	£
Income from Participating Councils	7	7
Government Grants	294,346	294,346
Total Income	294,353	294,353
Staff Costs	243,715	243,715
Committee Member Costs	4,493	4,493
Premises Costs	13,992	13,992
Supplies and Services	12,807	12,807
Travel and Subsistence Costs	12,903	12,903
Administration Costs	6,443	6,443
Total Expenditure	294,353	294,353
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0

3	Income from Participating Councils	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	Administration	185	7
		<u>185</u>	<u>7</u>
4	Government Grants	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	Administration	260,343	294,346
		<u>260,343</u>	<u>294,346</u>
5	Financial payments to beneficiaries	2014/15	2013/14
	Themes	£	£
	3.1 Diversification into Non Agricultural Activities	469,799	676,728
	3.2 Business Creation and Development	310,715	256,336
	3.3 Encouragement of Tourism Activities	915,870	1,359,942
	3.4 Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population	306,938	865,422
	3.5 Village Renewal and Development	528,199	320,378
	3.6 Conservation and Upgrading of Rural Heritage	0	62,472
		<u>2,531,521</u>	<u>3,541,278</u>
6	External Audit Fees	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	External Audit Fees	3,500	3,500
	Other Fees	0	0
		<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,500</u>

7	Staff Costs		2014/15	2013/14
			£	£
	Salaries		124,247	172,180
	National Insurance		9,433	13,684
	Pension Costs		25,062	31,058
	Agency Staff Costs		41,859	21,406
	SLA Costs		7,165	5,387
			207,766	243,715
			2014/15	2013/14
			FTE	FTE
	Total Staff Numbers		7	8
			Actual	Actual
			Numbers	Numbers
	Full-time numbers employed		5	7
	Part-time numbers employed		0	0
	Agency Staff numbers		2	1
			7	8
8	Short Term Debtors		2015	2014
			£	£
	Government Departments		81,522	80,504
	Councils		0	0
	Prepayments		0	0
	Other		0	0
			81,522	80,504
9	Short Term Creditors		2015	2014
			£	£
	Government Departments		0	0
	Councils		78,022	77,004
	Grants to Beneficiaries		0	0
	Receipts in Advance		0	0
	Other		3,500	3,500
			81,522	80,504
10	Cash Flow Note – Analysis of Adjustments to Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	Note	2014/15	2013/14
			£	£
	(Increase) / decrease in debtors	8	(1,018)	69,828
	Increase / (decrease) in creditors	9	1,018	(69,828)
			0	0

11 Related Party Transactions

A Related Party Transaction is a transfer of resources or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged. Related Party Transactions exclude transactions with any other entity that is a related party solely because of its economic dependence on the Joint Committee or the Government of which it forms part.

A related party is one that has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decisions. This includes cases where the related party entity and another entity are subject to common control but excludes providers of finance in the course of their normal business with the Joint Committee and Trade Unions in the course of their normal dealings with the Joint Committee.

In addition where the relationship with the Joint Committee and the entity is solely that of an Agency, these are not deemed to be Related Party Transactions.

Transactions with related parties not disclosed elsewhere in these financial statements are set out below, where a description of the nature and the amount of the transaction is as follows:

Organisation and Item	Value of Transaction	Explanation of Transaction
Ballymena Borough Council -Office Rental	£11,400	Staff employed by the Joint Committee to facilitate the programme are based in offices at Ecos Centre, Ballymena. The centre is owned by Ballymena Borough Council and office space is rented out to organisations on a commercial basis. The rental charge is compared to market rates annually to ensure value for money.
Ballymena Borough Council -Room Hire and Hospitality	£1,552	All Local Action Group meetings, Joint Council Committee Meetings and Assessment Panel meetings are conducted at Ecos Centre also. On a annual basis a value for money exercise is conducted on the supply of both these services to the Joint Committee.

The Joint Council Committee also paid grants of £1,489,225 (2014: £2,583,141) to a number of organisations in which members and executive officers have an interest. These grants were made with proper consideration of declaration of interests. Organisations which received grant aid over £3,000 are listed below.

Organisation	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Ballymena Borough Council	50,586	659,640
Ballymoney Borough Council	364,750	467,485
BEWWT	-	46,519
Causeway Coast & Glens Partnership	29,938	48,111
Coleraine Borough Council	192,582	570,011
Colm Bradley	-	50,000
Garvagh Development Trust	-	17,052
Glenariffe Improvement Association	-	17,812
Gleno Young Farmers	29,465	29,465
Jonathan McCamphill -Event Co	-	22,572
Kells & Connor Improvement Group	-	35,689
Larne Borough Council	585,882	46,448
Loughgiel Community Association	27,377	103,515
Maeve & Michael Bird	-	41,666
Moyle District Council	55,862	425,909
NER LAG	99,821	1,247
The Bushmills Trust	44,967	-
Antrim Estate Company	7,995	-
	1,489,225	2,583,141

Accounts Authorised for the Issue Certificate

In accordance with International Accounting Standard (IAS 10) this Statement of Accounts is at today's date hereby authorised for issue.

IAS 10 sets out

- The period during which an entity should adjust its financial statements for events after the balance sheet date as being the period between the date the financial statements were prepared and the date of this authorisation; and
- In the event of adjustments the disclosures that should be made.

Signed

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Chief Financial Officer

Dated:

..... 08/10/2015