

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Comprising the Legacy 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 period ended 30th September 2015



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Explanatory Foreword

Introduction

The Joint Committee's financial performance for the period ended 30th September 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 2015 (the Code) and the Department of the Environment Accounts Direction, Circular LG 02/16. 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 period 2015 and its financial position at the end of that period. 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 Statement of Accounts for the period ended 30th September 2015 have been prepared in line with The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in The United Kingdom 2015 (the Code) and the Department of the Environment Accounts Direction, Circular LG 02/16. 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 period ended 30th September 2015 and its financial position at the end of that period.

The following statements provide further information:

- The Movement in Reserves Statement, as set out on page 17, shows the movement in the period 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 period 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 period ended 30th September 2015 the Joint Committee accounted for grant income of £107,570, Council contributions of £284 and incurred total costs of £107,854. 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 period.

North East Region Joint Committee do not make any direct payments to project promoters as DARD make all such payments. In the period to the 30th September 2015 £nil (year to 31st March 2015: £2,531,521) 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 period; 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 12 February 2016 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 2015 to 30th September 2015 and have been prepared in compliance with the Direction.

Local Government Reform

On the 30th September 2015, the Joint Committee ceased to exist and its functions were transferred to the newly formed Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council combines the previous councils of Ballymena Borough Council, Carrickfergus Borough Council and Larne Borough Council 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 designated an officer as having responsibility for the winding up of its predecessor Joint Committees.

This designated officer had 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.

North East Region Joint Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 30th September 2015

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 ceased to exist 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.

Ballymena Borough Council acted as lead council for the delivery of the North East Region Joint Committee, this responsibility transferred to Mid and East Antrim Borough Council on the 1st April 2015 after Local Government Reform.

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 26th September 2016.

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 period and the financial position as at the end of the financial period.

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, and;
- follow relevant accounting and disclosure requirements and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- 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 was established to deliver Axis 3 of the NI Rural Development Programme 2007-2013. The Committee comprised three Elected Members from each of the five Legacy Councils within the North East Region. Ballymena Borough Council was the Lead Administrative Council prior to Local Government Reform. The Joint Committee ceased to exist on 31 March 2015 post Local Government Reform and the process of winding up of this Committee was overseen by an interim Joint Committee consisting of eight Elected Members from Mid and East Antrim Borough Council and Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

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 30th September 2015 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

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 Mid and East Antrim Borough Council, in its role as Lead Council.

The 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 period, 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 Mid and East Antrim 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 2015 financial period.

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.

North East Region Joint Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 30th September 2015

The Clerk and Chief Executive of Mid and East Antrim 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 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 Director of Finance and Governance 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. The Joint Committee adheres to the Financial Control code and Standing Orders of the Lead Council. 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 and Scrutiny 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.

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

The Lead Council's Standing Operating Procedure: Fraud and Corruption, 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 policy and recording system which is maintained by the Policy Team. This ensures all formal public complaints are appropriately investigated and responded to.

These arrangements extend to the role of Mid and East Antrim 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, she has 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 Clerk & Chief Executive of Mid and East Antrim 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. 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 Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's Corporate Risk Register and to Statements of Assurance provided by each Director to the Clerk & Chief Executive for the period ended 30th September 2015 .

Internal Audit services are provided to the Lead Council by ASM 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 and Scrutiny Committee at least four times each period 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.

North East Region Joint Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 30th September 2015

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 and Scrutiny Committee on 23 May 2016, 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.

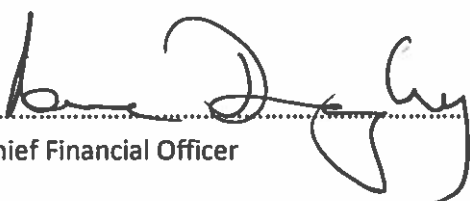
The Clerk & Chief Executive for the Lead Council has advised the Joint Committee of the results and implications of the review of the effectiveness of the governance framework.

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 role of the Rural Development Joint Committee ended on 30 September 2015. The final accounts for the Development Committee 2007-2013 will be for the 2015/16 financial period and will cover transactions up to the date the Committee ceased to exist, 30 September 2015.

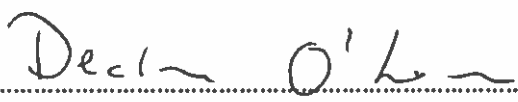
Signature


.....
Chief Financial Officer

Date

26th September 2016.

Signature


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

Date

26th September 2016.

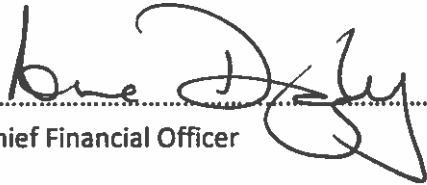
Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that :-

- a) The Statement of Accounts for the financial period ended 30th September 2015 on pages 3 to 27 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 period and the financial position as at the end of the financial period.

Signature


.....
Chief Financial Officer

Date

26th September 2016.

Signature


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

Date

26th September 2016.

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 period ended 30 September 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. I have also audited the information in the Remuneration Report that is described in that report as having been audited.

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.

Respective responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer and the independent auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Council'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 period and the financial position as at the end of the financial period. 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 2015-16, of the financial position of North East Region Joint Committee as at 30 September 2015 and its income and expenditure for the period then ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Department for Communities (formerly Department of the Environment) directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion the information given in the Explanatory Foreword for the financial period ended 30 September 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 2015-16;
 - does not comply with proper practices specified by the Department for Communities;
 - 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 and the part of the remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
 - I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit, or
- I issue a report in the public interest under Article 9 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005; or
- I designate under Article 12 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 any recommendation made to the Council; or
- I exercise the other special powers of the auditor under Article 19 to 21 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005.

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

29 September 2016

Movement in Reserves Statement

	Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
	£	£	£
At 1st April 2014	0	0	0
Movement in reserves during the period			
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	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0
Movement in reserves during the period			
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 30th September 2015	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

	Notes	2015 £	2014/15 £
Income			
Government Grant	2a/2b & 4	107,570	260,343
Participating Councils	3	284	185
Total Income		107,854	260,528
Expenditure			
Staff Costs	7	87,428	207,766
Committee Member Costs		38	3,048
Premises Costs		5,959	13,450
Supplies and Services		9,673	21,589
Travel and Subsistence Costs		2,236	6,863
Administration Costs		2,520	7,812
		107,854	260,528
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		0	0

Balance Sheet

		As at 30th Sept 2015	As at 31st Mar 2015
	Notes	£	£
Long Term Assets		0	0
Short Term Investments		0	0
Inventories		0	0
Short Term Debtors	8	83,115	81,522
Cash and Cash Equivalents		0	0
Assets Held for Sale		0	0
Current Assets		83,115	81,522
Bank Overdraft		0	0
Short Term Borrowing		0	0
Short Term Creditors	9	83,115	81,522
Provisions		0	0
Current Liabilities		83,115	81,522
Long Term Liabilities		0	0
Net Assets		0	0
Usable Reserves		0	0
Unusable Reserves		0	0
Net Worth		0	0

Cash Flow Statement

	2015	2014/15
	£	£
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 2015 financial period and its position at the end of 30th September 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 2015 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2015 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 period in which those effects are experienced and not in the period in which the cash is actually received or paid. This ensures that provision has been made for known outstanding debtors and creditors at the period end, estimated amounts being used where actual figures are not available.

**North East Region Joint Committee
Financial Statements For the period ended 30th September 2015**

2a Segmental Report - Current period

	Administration	Total
	£	£
Income from Participating Councils	284	284
Government Grants	107,570	107,570
Total Income	107,854	107,854
Staff Costs	87,428	87,428
Committee Member Costs	38	38
Premises Costs	5,959	5,959
Supplies and Services	9,673	9,673
Travel and Subsistence Costs	2,236	2,236
Administration Costs	2,520	2,520
Total Expenditure	107,854	107,854
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0

**North East Region Joint Committee
Financial Statements For the period ended 30th September 2015**

2b Segmental Report - Prior period

	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

North East Region Joint Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 30th September 2015

3	Income from Participating Councils	2015	2014/15
		£	£
	Administration	284	185
		<u>284</u>	<u>185</u>
4	Government Grants	2015	2014/15
		£	£
	Administration	107,570	260,343
		<u>107,570</u>	<u>260,343</u>
5	Financial payments to beneficiaries	2015	2014/15
	Themes	£	£
	3.1 Diversification into Non Agricultural Activities	0	469,799
	3.2 Business Creation and Development	0	310,715
	3.3 Encouragement of Tourism Activities	0	915,870
	3.4 Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population	0	306,938
	3.5 Village Renewal and Development	0	528,199
	3.6 Conservation and Upgrading of Rural Heritage	0	0
		<u>0</u>	<u>2,531,521</u>
6	External Audit Fees	2015	2014/15
		£	£
	External Audit Fees	2,000	3,500
	Other Fees	0	0
		<u>2,000</u>	<u>3,500</u>

North East Region Joint Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 30th September 2015

7 Staff Costs		2015	2014/15
		£	£
Salaries		66,215	124,247
National Insurance		4,715	9,433
Pension Costs		13,256	25,062
Agency Staff Costs		1,113	41,859
SLA Costs		2,129	7,165
		87,428	207,766
		2,015	2014/15
		FTE	FTE
Total Staff Numbers		5	7
		Actual	Actual
		Numbers	Numbers
Full-time numbers employed		5	5
Part-time numbers employed		0	0
Agency Staff numbers		0	2
		5	7
8 Short Term Debtors		2015	2015
		£	£
Government Departments		83,115	81,522
Councils		0	0
Prepayments		0	0
Other		0	0
		83,115	81,522
9 Short Term Creditors		2015	2015
		£	£
Government Departments		0	0
Councils		77,615	78,022
Grants to Beneficiaries		0	0
Receipts in Advance		0	0
Other		5,500	3,500
		83,115	81,522
10 Cash Flow Note – Analysis of Adjustments to Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	Note	2015	2014/15
		£	£
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	8	(1,593)	(1,018)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	9	1,593	1,018
		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
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council - Office Rental	£5,700	Staff employed by the Joint Committee to facilitate the programme are based in offices at Ecos Centre, Ballymena. The centre is owned by Mid and East Antrim 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.
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council - Room Hire and Hospitality	£259	All Local Action Group meetings, Joint Council Committee Meetings and Assessment Panel meetings are conducted at Ecos Centre also. On an 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 £nil (2014/15: £1,489,225) 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	2015	2014/15
	£	£
Ballymena Borough Council	-	50,586
Ballymoney Borough Council	-	364,750
Causeway Coast & Glens Partnership	-	29,938
Coleraine Borough Council	-	192,582
Gleno Young Farmers	-	29,465
Larne Borough Council	-	585,882
Loughgiel Community Association	-	27,377
Moyle District Council	-	55,862
NER LAG	-	99,821
The Bushmills Trust	-	44,967
Antrim Estate Company	-	7,995
Total	-	1,489,225

12 Date of Authorisation for Issue

The Chief Financial Officer authorised these financial statements for issue on 26th September 2016.