

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Comprising Council Areas:
Ballymena Borough Council
Carrickfergus Borough Council
Larne Borough Council

Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee

For the period ended 19th June 2014

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Explanatory Foreword**Introduction**

The Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee was formed pursuant to the powers conferred by the Local Government (Statutory Transition Committees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013.

These Regulations required each new Council area to establish a Statutory Transition Committee and the Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee was established on 6th August 2013 in accordance with this legislation.

The Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee is comprised of 15 Councillors, 5 from each of the three constituent Councils, namely:

- Ballymena Borough Council
- Carrickfergus Borough Council
- Larne Borough Council

For the new council namely, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council, the Statutory Transition Committee must:

- 1) prepare a draft corporate and business plan;
- 2) prepare a draft budget; and
- 3) arrange the first meeting of the new Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

Financial Report

The Financial Statements for the period ended 19th June 2014 have been prepared in line with The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in The United Kingdom 1/4/14 to (the Code) and the Department of the Environment (DOE) Accounts Direction, Circular LG Circular 01/15. It is the purpose of this foreword to explain, in an easily understandable way, the financial facts in relation to the Statutory Transition Committee for this period. However, the financial statements follow approved accounting standards and are necessarily technical in parts.

A summary of the Income and Expenditure of the Mid and East Antrim Statutory Committee is as follows:

	£
Net cost of services :	347,975
Financed by :	
Grant income	23,727
Cluster funding	<u>324,248</u>
Surplus /Deficit	<u>-</u>

The Financial Statements explain the Statutory Transition Committee's finances during the financial period ended 19th June 2014 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 10 shows the movement in the year on the reserves held by the Statutory Transition Committee. The surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Statutory Transition Committee's services.
- The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as set out on page 11, shows the income earned and the expenditure incurred during the period by the Statutory Transition 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 Statutory Transition Committee.
- The Balance Sheet, as set out on page 12, shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the Statutory Transition Committee's assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Statutory Transition Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Statutory Transition Committee.
- The Cash Flow Statement, as set out on page 13, shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Statutory Transition Committee during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Statutory Transition Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.

For the period ended 19th June 2014 the Statutory Transition Committee accounted for grant income of £23,727, Council contributions of £324,248 and incurred total costs of £347,975. The financial activities of the Statutory Transition Committee are wholly funded by Government Bodies and the participating Councils, therefore resulting in a £nil surplus/deficit for the period.

Legislative Context for Preparation and Audit of the Financial Statements

Section 15(8)(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (NI) 2010 provides that a Statutory Transition Committee is a local government body for the purposes of Part 2 of the Local Government (NI) Order 2005. The Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005, Article 3, 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 Part 2 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 under Regulation 4 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations 2006 requires the Statutory Transition Committee to prepare accounts. These Financial Statements cover the period from 1st April 2014 to 19th June 2014 and have been prepared in compliance with the Direction.

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

The Statutory Transition Committee's Responsibilities

As Statutory Transition Committees ceased to exist on 19 June 2014, the Department has made provisions in the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary and Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, to modify the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (NI) 2006 (S.R. 2006 No.89) to facilitate the preparation, approval and signing of the Statutory Transition Committee accounts by the chief financial officer (CFO) of the new council, namely, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

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 (CFO). Arrangements made by a council for the proper administration of its financial affairs shall be carried out under the supervision of its Financial Officer.

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

These accounts were approved by the Chief Financial Officer of the Mid and East Antrim Borough Council 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 Statutory Transition 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;
- 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

According to the Regulations, the primary role of the Statutory Transition Committee was to undertake preparatory duties to inform the key decisions of the new incoming Council following local government elections in May 2014.

The Statutory Transition 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 Statutory Transition 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 Statutory Transition 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 Statutory Transition 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 Statutory Transition 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 Statutory Transition Committee is directed and controlled and the activities through which the Statutory Transition Committee accounts to and engages with the community. It enables the Statutory Transition 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 governance framework has been in place for the financial period ended 19th June 2014 and up to the date of approval of the Financial Statements.

The Governance Framework

The Acting Chief Executive & Town Clerk for the Lead Council has responsibility for maintaining a system of sound internal controls and risk management processes to support the Statutory Transition Committee in the achievement of its objectives, 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.

A copy of the full Governance Statement for Ballymena Borough Council is published in its own Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015.

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

Review of effectiveness

The Statutory Transition Committee has responsibility for conducting a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness was informed by the work of the Statutory Transition 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 Department, the Audit Authority and other external auditors.

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

The Chief Executive & Town Clerk for the New Council has responsibility for the preparation of this Annual Governance Statement, as well as the Lead Partner Assurance Statement for submission to the Department. In preparing this statement, they have considered the governance framework and system of internal controls in place. This review has been undertaken taking account of Guidance on the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 issued by the Department of the Environment in February 2008. The Acting Chief Executive & Town Clerk 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 Statutory Transition Committee. Progress on the implementation of the Statutory Transition Committee Plan and issues arising are reviewed and reported to the Councillors 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 Chief Executive & Town Clerk.

The Lead Council undertook an annual review of the effectiveness of Internal Audit in line with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the United Kingdom 2006. This review proved satisfactory.

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

Significant governance issues

There were no significant governance issues noted in relation to the Statutory Transition Committee.

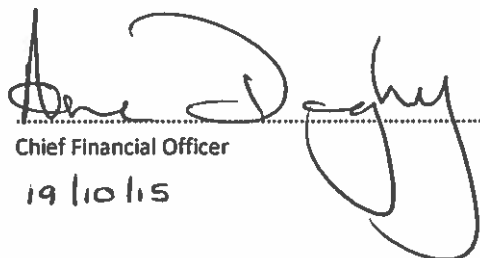
Local Government Reform

From 1 April 2015, under the Reform of Local Government (RLG), the number of Councils in Northern Ireland will reduce from the 26 existing to 11 new Councils, established under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Boundaries) Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. From that date the Northern Ireland Executive has agreed to transfer some functions currently carried out by NI Government Departments and give some new responsibilities to the 11 new Councils. The new councils will be stronger, more efficient and will deliver more effective services.

The Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 introduced the legislative frame work for Northern Ireland's 11 new councils and has made transitional provisions to provide for the transfer of staff, assets and liabilities from the current 26 councils to the 11 new councils, and from departments transferring functions to the new councils.

The function of this Statutory Transition Committee was to lead the convergence between the merging councils and commence preparatory work for the new council, to inform the key decisions of the new council following local government elections in May 2014. This work has now been completed and the Statutory Transition Committee ceased to exist on 19 June 2014.


Signature


.....
Chief Financial Officer

Date

19/10/15

Signature


.....
On behalf of the Committee of Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Date

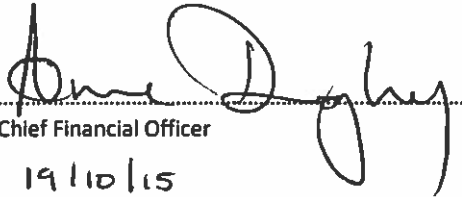
19/10/15

Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that :-

- a) The Statement of Accounts for the financial period ended 19th June 2014 on pages 10 to 18 has been prepared in the form directed by the Department of the Environment and under the accounting policies set out on page 14.
- 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

19/10/15

Signature


.....
On behalf of the Committee of Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Date

19/10/15

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MID AND EAST ANTRIM BOROUGH COUNCIL

I have audited the financial statements of Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee for the period ended 19 June 2014 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 Mid and East Antrim Borough Council (as the Statutory Transition Committee ceased to exist on 19 June 2014), 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 Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition 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 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 Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition 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, of the financial position of Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee as at 19th June 2014 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) 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 period ended 19th June 2014 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 Governance Statement does not comply with proper practices specified by the Department of the Environment;

- 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 the Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition 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

22 October 2015

Movement in Reserves Statement

	Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
	£	£	£
At 6th August 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 19th June 2014	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

	Notes	1/4/14 to 19/6/14 £	6/8/13 to 31/3/14 £
Income			
Participating Councils	3	324,248	15,551
Government Grant	4	23,727	69,881
Total Income		347,975	85,432
Expenditure			
Staff Costs	5	30,196	48,706
Running Costs		4,464	2,327
Capacity Building		3,102	24,426
Election Expenditure		308,819	0
Audit Fee	6	441	3,500
Other Expenses		953	6,473
Total Expenditure		347,975	85,432
Surplus / (Deficit) on the provision of Services		0	0
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		0	0

Balance Sheet

	Notes	19 June 2014 £	31 March 2014 £
Short Term Debtors	7	324,248	53,198
Cash and Cash Equivalents	8	0	0
Current Assets		324,248	53,198
Short Term Creditors	9	324,248	53,198
Current Liabilities		324,248	53,198
Net Assets		0	0
Usable Reserves		0	0
Unusable Reserves		0	0
Net Worth		0	0

Cash Flow Statement

	Notes	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	8	0	0
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		0	0
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		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 Statutory Transition Committee's transactions for the 2014/15 financial period and its position at the end of 19th June 2014. The Statutory Transition Committee is required to prepare 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 The Segmental Report

	2014/15		
Current Year	DOE & Other Funding	Cluster Funding	Total
	£	£	£
Income from Participating Councils	0	324,248	324,248
Government Grants	23,727	0	23,727
Total Income	23,727	324,248	347,975
Staff Costs	7,576	22,620	30,196
Running Costs	0	4,464	4,464
Capacity Building	3,102	0	3,102
Election Expenditure	13,049	295,770	308,819
Audit Fee	0	441	441
Other Expenses	0	953	953
	23,727	324,248	347,975
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0

2b The Segmental Report

	2013/14		
Staff Costs	DOE & Other Funding	Cluster Funding	Total
	£	£	£
Income from Participating Councils	0	15,551	15,551
Government Grants	69,881	0	69,881
Total Income	69,881	15,551	85,432
Staff Costs	45,455	3,251	48,706
Running Costs	0	2,327	2,327
Capacity Building	24,426	0	24,426
Election Expenditure	0	0	0
Audit Fee	0	3,500	3,500
Other Expenses	0	6,473	6,473
	69,881	15,551	85,432
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0

Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 19th June 2014

3	Income from Participating Councils	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	Ballymena Borough Council	108,083	5,184
	Carrickfergus Borough Council	108,083	5,184
	Larne Borough Council	108,082	5,183
		324,248	15,551
4	Government Grants	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	Change Manager Funding	7,576	45,455
	Member/Staff Capacity Building	3,102	24,426
	Election Costs	13,049	0
		23,727	69,881
5	Staff Costs	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	Salaries	23,215	35,442
	National Insurance	2,554	3,899
	Pension Costs	4,427	6,989
	Agency Staff Costs	0	2,376
		30,196	324,248
		2014/15	2013/14
		FTE	FTE
	Total Staff Numbers	2	1
		Actual Numbers	Actual Numbers
	Full-time numbers employed	2	1
	Part-time numbers employed	0	0
	Agency Staff numbers	0	1
	Staff Costs	2	2
6	External Audit Fees	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
	External Audit Fees	2,000	3,500
	Over charge in prior year	(1,559)	0
		441	3,500

Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee

Financial Statements

For the period ended 19th June 2014

7 Short Term Debtors	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Government Departments	0	35,790
Councils	324,248	15,551
Prepayments	0	1,857
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	324,248	53,198

The Statutory Transition Committee does not have a bank account. All financial transactions are administered by Lead Council or the constituent Councils directly.

8 Cash Flow Note – Analysis of Adjustments to Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(271,050)	(53,198)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	271,050	53,198
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	0	0

9 Short Term Creditors	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Councils	0	0
Receipts in Advance	0	0
Accruals	324,248	15,551
Other	0	37,647
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	324,248	53,198

10 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 Statutory Transition 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:

Ballymena Borough Council, Carrickfergus Borough Council and Larne Borough Council have provided premises, facilities and administrative staff at no charge to Mid and East Antrim Statutory Transition Committee to allow the Statutory Transition Committee to carry on its function. The Council chambers of the three predecessor councils have been used on a rota basis to hold the monthly statutory transition committee meetings. Committee administration and financial management staff of the Lead Administrative Council (Ballymena Borough Council) have serviced the committees and produced the financial statements for the Statutory Transition Committee at no charge.

At the period end costs incurred by the Statutory Transition Committee amounted to £324,248, this amount is being recouped on an equal basis from the three predecessor councils.

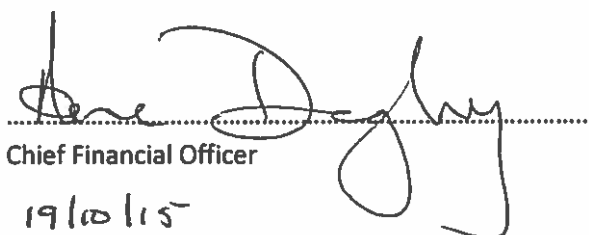
Accounts Authorised for the Issue Certificate

In accordance with International Accounting Standard 10, Events after the Balance Sheet Date (IAS 10) this Statement of Accounts which contains a number of minor amendments from the Accounts approved on 29th June 2015 are 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


.....
Chief Financial Officer

Dated

19/06/15