

At the Audit and Governance Committee
held on 7th August 2025

Present : Cllr Brown
Cllr Baldwin
Cllr Dickinson
Cllr McNabb
Chris Kelsall (MRWA)
Liz Luddington (Grant Thornton)
Curtis Wallace (Grant Thornton)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Pocock

2. **Minutes of the Audit and Governance Meeting held on 29th May 2025**

Resolved the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 29th May 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**

There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Statement of Accounts 22-23 and 23-24**
WDA/12/25

The Authority is statutorily required to prepare a Statement of Accounts that complies with proper accounting practices. Following the meeting on 29 May, amended accounts for 2022-23 and 2023-24 were published and made available for inspection on 30 May.

The statutory deadline for consultation ended on 11 July with no queries raised and therefore the accounts were presented to the committee for final approval, noting that there were no changes from those noted by the committee on 29 May.

Resolved that:

1. That the statements of accounts for 2022-23 and 2023-24 are approved and that the Director of Finance and the Chair of the Audit Committee be approved to sign them on the Authority's behalf.

2. It was noted that both sets of accounts would receive a Disclaimer of Audit Opinion.

5. **Independent Member of the Audit Committee**

Cllr Brown circulated a note outlining a potential person specification and terms of appointment for an independent member to serve on the committee. The committee was in agreement with the proposal.

The Director of Finance agreed to prepare a report seeking approval from the Authority at its meeting of 26 September 2025 to commence recruitment on the basis of the principles outlined in the note.