

<b>Title of report</b>	Draft Annual Report and Accounts Review
<b>Public/Confidential</b>	Public
<b>Summary/purpose of report</b>	This report provides Council Members with an opportunity to review the draft 2020/21 Annual Report and Accounts in advance of formal approval in autumn.
<b>Recommendations</b>	The Council is asked to review the draft 2020/21 Annual Report and Accounts (appendix 1) and provide feedback to officers.
<b>Author</b>	Nicky Anderson Head of Finance
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Lynn Murray, Interim Director, Finance and Resources
<b>Link to Strategic Plan</b>	The information in this report links to:  Outcome 1: People who use services are protected by ensuring the regulated workforce is fit to practise.  Outcome 2: The SSSC supports and enhances the development of the registered workforce to deliver high standards of practice and drive improvement.  Outcome 3: Our workforce planning activities support employers, commissioners and policy makers to deliver a sustainable, integrated and innovative workforce.  Outcome 4: The social work, social care and early years workforce is recognised as professional and regulated and valued for the difference it makes to people's lives.
<b>Link to Risk Register</b>	Risk 3: We fail to meet corporate governance, external scrutiny and legal obligations.

<b>Impact assessments</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An Equalities Impact Assessment was not developed.</li> <li>2. A Data Protection Impact Assessment was not required.</li> <li>3. A Sustainability Impact Assessment was not required.</li> </ol>
<b>Documents attached</b>	Appendix 1: Draft 2020/21 Annual Report and Accounts
<b>Background papers</b>	None

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. We are asking Council Members to provide initial feedback on the draft Annual Report and Accounts for 2020/21.

## **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/21**

2. We have prepared the draft Annual Report and Accounts for 2020/21 (appendix 1) in accordance with the Accounts Direction issued by Scottish Ministers as well as the Government's Financial reporting Manual (FReM) which follows International Financial Reporting Standards, International Financial Reporting Interpretation Committee (IFRIC) interpretations and the Companies Act 2006.
3. We submitted the draft Annual Report and Accounts to our external auditors by the deadline of Friday 25 June 2021 and audit fieldwork is well underway. We ask Council to review this draft at appendix 1 and provide feedback. We will include this feedback and any recommendations made by auditors in the final draft that we present to the Audit and Assurance Committee on 27 September 2021.
4. At the September meeting, we will ask the Audit and Assurance Committee to make recommendations to Council to either endorse or reject the draft Annual Report and Accounts at their meeting of 25 October 2021. We are then required to lay the Annual Report and Accounts before Parliament by 31 December 2021.

## **CONSULTATION**

5. Council is asked to review the draft Annual Report and Accounts in advance of the formal governance review by Audit and Assurance Committee on 27 September 2021. The Executive Management Team has been consulted on the content of the document.

## **RISKS**

6. We have agreed a risk appetite of averse for Risk 3: We fail to meet corporate governance, external scrutiny and legal obligations.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

7. There are no financial, legal or staffing implications arising from this report.

## **Compliance**

8. Within our overall governance framework specific arrangements are in place as part of the system of internal financial control. This system is intended to ensure that reasonable assurance can be given that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded, and material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period. The governance process is designed to give Council and Audit and Assurance Committee Members opportunity to scrutinise the Annual Report and Accounts in advance of formal approval as well as gain assurance over our systems of financial control.

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

9. We did not develop an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) as the Annual Report and Accounts summarise the work that is delivered across the organisation, which will have had EIAs carried out.

## **CONCLUSION**

10. Council is asked to note progress with the draft 2020/21 Annual Report and Accounts and provide feedback in advance of the formal approval process.