Responsible Financial Officer Reports (9-13)

<u>9.</u> <u>**RFO Report**</u> - (for information – bank balances)

Bank balances - as at 31 May 2022 are as follows:

TOTAL	<u>£694,883.32</u>
Cornwall Council deposit	646,804.48
Lloyds Debit card	711.81
HSBC	47,367.03

<u>10. Internal Auditors Report</u> – To receive, consider and accept the Internal Auditors report. Attachment: 10. Internal Audit Report year ended 31.3.22

The report notes one suggested action – page 3 Risk. Our current level of Fidelity Guarantee insurance is £700,000, however with both increased reserves and precept for 2021/22 this is now insufficient (approx. £780,000 required) and our insurance brokers have been contacted to request an increase to £800,000. They have indicated that they do not believe there will be an issue with securing this. Fidelity insurance provides protection to the Council against business losses caused due to Council member or employee dishonesty, theft or fraud.

The new Practitioners Guide confirms that item L on the Internal Audit Report still only applies to Councils under £25,000 (as have PKF Littlejohn, the external auditors in e-mail correspondence) despite the change in wording from last year. Hence the 'Not Covered' response.

Recommendation: To accept the Internal Audit Report

<u>11. Annual Governance Statement 2021/2022</u>. - To respond to each of the nine Statements of the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 – Page 4). Attachment: 11. Annual Governance and Accountability Return

The Council must consider and respond individually to each statement, considering the report from the internal auditor, and its own review of the effectiveness of internal controls and risk management arrangements for 2021/22 as undertaken by Council at its meeting on 7 June 2022. This return must be approved by 30 June 2022 and submitted with the accounting statements and all the documentation required for external audit by 1 July 2022.

In accordance with requirements, the period for the exercise of public rights, when any interested person may inspect or make copies of the accounting records, question the auditor or make an objection, will commence on Thursday 30 June 2022 and end on Wednesday 10 August 2022. Full details will be available on the Town Council website

https://www.liskeard.gov.uk/key-documents/financial-information/ from Wednesday 29 June 2022.

Recommendation: To approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 as completed by the Council for signature by the Chairman and Clerk

<u>12. Accounting Statements 2021/2022</u> - To consider and approve the Accounting Statements for 2021/2022 signed by the RFO (Section 2 – page 5). Attachments: 12i. Balance Sheet, 12ii. Income and Expenditure

The Accounting Statements for 2021/2022 within attachment 11, which have been checked by the internal auditor, are presented for approval. To provide additional information, more traditional balance sheet and income and expenditure reports have also been provided.

<u>Recommendation: to approve the Accounting Statements 2021/2022 for signature by the</u> <u>Chairman</u>

<u>13. Schedule of Payments</u> - To receive and approve the schedule of payments. Attachment: 13. Schedule of Payments

Recommendation: to approve the schedule of payments