AGENDA ITEM 8

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015/16

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject:ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015/16Meeting:FALKIRK COUNCILDate:22 June 2016Author:DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & HOUSING SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, the Council is required to submit the Annual Accounts of the Council ("the Accounts") for the financial year ended 31 March 2016 to Audit Scotland by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2016.

2. 2015/16 ACCOUNTS

- 2.1 Officers have been working on preparing the unaudited Accounts for the past few months and the closure of accounts process is proceeding in accordance with the project plan to allow them to be lodged with the Controller of Audit by the due date of 30 June. The unaudited Accounts were considered by the Audit Committee on 20 June 2016 and were posted on the Council's website following that consideration. The statutory three week public inspection period will commence on 27 June following public notice on 9 June. The audit stage will commence formally at the beginning of July and is due to be completed by the end of September.
- 2.2 The Accounts require to be submitted by 30th September following consideration and approval by the Council or its Audit Committee. The current timetable of Council meetings will not accommodate consideration by the Council in addition to the Audit Committee. It is proposed that the audited Accounts will be presented to the Audit Committee on 26 September 2016 for consideration and approval. Following approval the Accounts will be signed by all relevant parties.

3. **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Council:-

- 3.1 (a) note the arrangements for consideration of the unaudited Accounts; and
 - (b) agrees to delegate authority to the Audit Committee to consider and approve the audited Accounts.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. 2015/16 Unaudited Annual Report and Accounts and working papers.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506371 and ask for Amanda Templeman.