

Section 1 – Accounting statements 2012/13 for

ELESMEKE TOWN COUNCIL

Readers should note that throughout this annual return references to a 'local council' or 'council' also relate to a parish meeting.

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2012 £	31 March 2013 £	
1 Balances brought forward	39968	68124	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2 (+) Annual precept	163458	188777	Total amount of precept received or receivable in the year.
3 (+) Total other receipts	36529	48158	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept received (line 2). Include any grants received here.
4 (-) Staff costs	49984	54241	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	5325	15209	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the council's borrowings (if any).
6 (-) All other payments	116522	134514	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7 (=) Balances carried forward	68124	101095	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)
8 Total cash and short term investments	65974	99739	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – to agree with bank reconciliation.
9 Total fixed assets plus other long term investments and assets	2235125	2315450	The original Asset and Investment Register value of all fixed assets, plus other long term assets owned by the council as at 31 March
10 Total borrowings	75992	70267	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11 (If Applicable) Trust funds (including charitable) disclosure note	YES NO	YES NO	(if applicable) The council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets. (Readers should note that the figures in the accounting statements above do not include any trust transactions.)

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2013 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of the council and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

[Signature]

Date 03 06 2013

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by the council on this date:

03 06 2013

and recorded as minute reference:

76/13

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

[Signature]

Date 03 06 2013

Section 2 – Annual governance statement 2012/13

We acknowledge as the members of:

ELLESMERE TOWN COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2013, that:

	Agreed –		'Yes' means that the council:	
	Yes	No*		
1 We approved the accounting statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	YES		prepared its accounting statements in the way prescribed by law.	
2 We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	YES		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.	
3 We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the council to conduct its business or on its finances.	YES		has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it has done so.	
4 We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	YES		during the year has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the council's accounts.	
5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing the council and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	YES		considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.	
6 We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the council accounting records and control systems.	YES		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of the council.	
7 We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	YES		responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.	
8 We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the council and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	YES		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.	
9 Trust funds (including charitable) – in our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and , if required, independent examination or audit.	YES	NO	NA	has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

This annual governance statement is approved by the council and recorded as minute reference

76/13

dated 03 06 2013

Signed by:

Chair

dated

Signed by:

Clerk

dated

***Note:** Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how the council will address the weaknesses identified.

Section 3 – External auditor certificate and opinion 2012/13

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2013 of

ELLESMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Respective responsibilities of the council and the auditor

The council is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The council prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2013; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to our audit responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit in accordance with guidance issued by the Audit Commission and, on the basis of our review of the annual return and supporting information, to report whether any matters that come to our attention give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

External auditor's report

On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the council:

The statement of assets provided for the audit indicates that the value of assets shown in Section 1, Box 9 includes items such as public liability insurance cover and the increase in Fidelity Guarantee. These are not actually fixed assets and, as such should not be included either in the asset schedule or the Annual Return. We recommend that this matter is reviewed for 2013/14. Detailed guidance on accounting for fixed assets is contained within the Practitioners' Guide.

External auditor's signature: Mazars LLP

External auditor's name: Mazars LLP, Poole, BH17 0NF

Date: 28 AUGUST 2013

Note: The auditor signing this page has been appointed by the Audit Commission and is reporting to you that they have carried out and completed all the work that is required of them by law. For further information please refer to the Audit Commission's publication entitled *Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Small Bodies*.