

LAGAN

RURAL PARTNERSHIP

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31st March 2015



'The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development: Europe
investing in rural areas.'



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Explanatory Foreword

Introduction

The Joint Committee's financial performance for the year ended 31st March 2015 is as set out in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and its financial position is as set out in the Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement.

The Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2015 have been prepared in line with The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in The United Kingdom 2014/15 (the Code) and the Department of the Environment Accounts Direction, Circular LG15/15. It is the purpose of this foreword to explain, in an easily understandable way the financial facts in relation to the Joint Committee for this period. However, the Financial Statements follow approved Accounting standards and are necessarily technical in parts.

This Statement of Accounts explains the Joint Committee's finances during the financial year 2014/15 and its financial position at the end of that year. It follows approved accounting standards and is necessarily technical in parts.

Group Accounts

The Code requires Local Authorities to consider all their interests and to prepare a full set of group financial statements where they have material interests in subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. Lagan Rural Partnership does not have material interests in such bodies and accordingly is not required to prepare group financial statements.

Financial Report

The financial statements explain the Joint Committee's finances during the financial year ended 31st March 2015 and its financial position at the end of that year.

The following statements provide further information:

- The Movement in Reserves Statement, as set out on page 14, shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Joint Committee. The surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Joint Committee's services.
- The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as set out on page 15, shows the income earned and the expenditure incurred during the year by the Joint Committee in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. This includes details of funding received from Government bodies and participating Councils, together with details of administrative expenditure incurred by the Joint Committee and financial assistance provided to beneficiaries.
- The Balance Sheet, as set out on page 16, shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the Joint Committee's assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Joint Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Joint Committee.
- The Cash Flow Statement, as set out on page 17, shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the joint committee during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Joint Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.

For the year ended 31st March 2015 the Joint Committee accounted for grant income of £222,005, Council contributions of £NIL and incurred total costs of £222,005. The financial activities of the Joint Committee are wholly funded by Government Bodies and the participating Councils, therefore resulting in a £nil surplus/deficit for the year.

Legislative Context for Preparation and Audit of the Financial Statements

The Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005, Article 3, defines a joint committee of two or more councils to be a local government body and provides that:

The accounts of every local authority government body shall be:

- a) made up to the end of each financial year; and
- b) audited in accordance with this Part by a local government auditor designated by the Department, after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland.

Article 24 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 provides that the Department may issue regulations as to accounts and audit. In this regard the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 were made on 7 March 2006.

The Accounts Direction, issued by the Department of the Environment on 1st April 2015 under Regulation 4 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations 2006 requires the Joint Committee to prepare accounts. These financial statements cover the period from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 and have been prepared in compliance with the Direction.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Local Government Reform

From 1st April 2015, the Joint Committee for Lisburn City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council and Belfast City Council will cease to exist and its functions will be transferred to the new Council, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council combines the previous councils of Lisburn City Council and Castlereagh Borough Council into one new body constituted under the framework established by the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Under regulation 11 of the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, the new council will designate an officer as having responsibility for the winding up of its predecessor Joint Committees.

This designated officer will have responsibility for the preparation of final statements of account for the Joint Committee in a form directed by the Department under regulation 4 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.

These accounts are prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

The Chief Financial Officer of the lead council is responsible for the preparation, signing and dating of the statement of accounts for the Joint Committee. Since the lead council ceases on 31 March 2015, Regulation 9 of the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 provides that the activities of the lead council will be continued by the new council i.e. that council in which the lead council was a predecessor council. As such, for the purpose of complying with the requirements of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, the Accounts Direction will require that the Chief Financial Officer should be that of the new council. Regulation 1(2) of the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 notes that, in relation to a new council, an existing council is a "predecessor council" if the whole or the major part of the district of the existing council is, in accordance with section 1 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 as in force immediately prior to the making of the Local Government (Boundaries) (2008 Act) (Commencement, Transitional Provision and Savings) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013, to be incorporated in the district of the new council.

As required by regulation 5 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (NI) 2006, Rural Development Joint Committees have until 30 June 2015 to approve their statement of accounts, and that approval must be given by a resolution of a committee of the Joint Committee or the members of the Joint Committee meeting as a whole. As noted in LG 21/2015, given that it is anticipated that the current role of the Rural Development Joint Committee will end on 31 March 2015, the statement of accounts shall be approved by a resolution of a committee of the new council or by a resolution of the members of the new council meeting as a whole.

It is expected that a Legacy Joint Committee will be formed in April 2015 consisting of 8 elected representatives from Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and 1 elected representative from Belfast City Council. This Committee will meet to discuss issues regarding live grant applications post April 2015 and respond to any audit issues raised by the Managing Agent - Department of Agriculture & Rural Development. It is expected that after the official end date of the NI Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013 in September 2015, the functions of this Committee will be passed on to another suitable Committee within Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.

Statement of the Joint Committee's and the Chief Financial Officer's responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Joint Committee's Responsibilities

Under Section 1 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 a Council shall make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs. A council shall designate an officer of the council as its Chief Financial Officer. Arrangements made by a council for the proper administration of its financial affairs shall be carried out under the supervision of its Financial Officer. The Joint Committee has adopted a similar arrangement and the Chief Financial Officer for the Administrative (Lead) Council undertakes equivalent duties for the Joint Committee.

Under Regulation 5 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 the Joint Committee is required by resolution to approve the accounts.

These accounts were approved by the Governance & Audit Committee of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council on 26 June 2015

The Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

Under Regulation 4(1) of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Joint Committee's Statement of Accounts in the form directed by the Department of the Environment.

The accounts must give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year.

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chief Financial Officer is required to:-

- observe the Accounts Direction issued by the Department of the Environment including compliance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom as amended and augmented from time to time as appropriate;
- follow relevant accounting and disclosure requirements and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis; and
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The Chief Financial Officer is also required to:-

- keep proper accounting records that are up-to-date; and
- take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Governance Statement**Introduction**

Lagan Rural partnership Joint Committee (The Joint Committee) is the Administrative and Lead Financial Body within the terms of the Local Government (Constituting a Joint Committee) Order (Northern Ireland) 2009 for the development and implementation of the agreed rural development strategy for the rural areas within Lisburn City Council, Castlereagh and Belfast City Council under Axis 3 of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013. The Joint Committee was formed by the aforementioned Councils in July 2009 to deliver the above programme.

The Joint Committee is made up of elected members from each of the three Council areas (7 elected members from Lisburn City Council, 3 elected members from Castlereagh Borough Council and 1 elected member for Belfast City Council). The Joint Committee is primarily the financial administrator for the Local Action Group in the receipt, payment, disbursement, management and accounting for funds awarded. The above partners agreed that Lisburn City Council would be the Lead Council in relation to the administrative and financial management of the programme.

The Joint Committee is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Joint Committee also has a duty under Local Government (Best Value) Act (NI) 2002 to make arrangements for continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Joint Committee is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

The Joint Committee is required to prepare an Annual Governance Statement, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. This statement explains how the Joint Committee meets the requirements of Regulation 2A of the Local Government Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland 2006) in relation to the publication of a statement on internal control.

The Local Action Group is also made up of elected members from each of the three council areas. There are 7 elected members from Lisburn City Council, 3 elected members from Castlereagh Borough Council and 1 elected member from Belfast City Council. In addition there are eleven social partners from the same council areas representing the agriculture, rural business and rural community sectors (7 social partners from Lisburn City Council, 3 social partners from Castlereagh Borough Council and 1 social partner from Belfast City Council). The Local Action Group is primarily responsible for issuing calls for applications, appraisal assessment and scoring of projects for approval/rejection by the Joint Committee and monitoring and evaluating the progress of the rural development strategy.

The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values, by which the Joint Committee is directed and controlled and the activities through which the Joint Committee accounts to and engages with the community. It enables the Joint Committee to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Joint Committee's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place for the financial period ended 31st March 2015 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

The Governance Framework

This section provides a summary of the key elements of the systems and processes that comprise the Joint Committee's governance arrangements. As noted on page 8, the governance arrangements for the Joint Committee are set out in the Consortium Agreement and are supported by the overall governance framework set by Lisburn City Council, in its role as Lead Council and secretariat to the Joint Committee.

The Chief Executive of Lisburn City Council as Chief Financial Officer of the Joint Council Committee has responsibility for maintaining a system of sound internal controls and risk management processes to support the Joint Committee in the achievement of all conditions in the Letter of Offer, and for reviewing their effectiveness. The systems of controls are based on a continual process designed to identify the principal risks to the achievement of the project objectives, to evaluate the nature and extent of those risks and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

A copy of the the full Governance Statement for Lisburn City Council is published in its own financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2015.

Overall control of the governance framework and system of internal controls is the responsibility of the Joint Committee.

The following arrangements are in place for identifying and communicating etc:

Arrangements for undertaking the core functions of an Audit Committee, as identified in CIPFA's Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities

The Lead Council has in place an Audit Committee whose overall purpose and objective is to assist Council in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. The Audit Committee, which meets at least three times each year, has responsibility for reviewing:

- The system of internal control and management of risks;
- The financial reporting process;
- The internal and external audit process;
- Council's processes for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations; and
- Council's processes for monitoring compliance with its own Standing Orders, policies and procedures.

The Lead Council's Audit Committee remit is not to act as the Audit Committee for the Joint Committee. Instead, it oversees the role of Lisburn City Council as Lead Council of the Joint Committee. All governance and audit issues relating to the delivery of the Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013 are reported directly to the Joint Committee.

Arrangements for ensuring compliance with relevant laws and regulations, internal policies and procedures, and that expenditure is lawful

The Joint Committee and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development regularly review progress made and issues arising by way of periodic progress reports, interim reports and final reports. Improved processes regarding eligibility of expenditure, compliance with Letters of Offer and the issue of amendments have been reviewed, updated and implemented during the 2014/15 financial year.

The Lead Council retain a panel of specialist legal advisors to provide expertise, advice and guidance as required. In addition, recommendations as outlined in internal and external audit reports enable the Lead Council to ensure compliance is maintained.

Arrangements for whistle-blowing and for receiving and investigating complaints from the public

The Lead Council's Standing Operating Procedure: Fraud and Corruption, sets out whistle-blowing arrangements. The procedure sets out the arrangements where employees wish to make disclosures whilst remaining protected from action by their employer.

The handling of complaints is set out in the Council's Complaints Procedure, a copy of which is published on the Council's website.

These arrangements extend to the role of Lisburn City Council as Lead Council to the Joint Committee.

Review of effectiveness

Lisburn City Council as the Lead Administrative Council for the Joint Committee has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Senior Management Team within the Lead Administrative Council, who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment and also by recommendations made by auditors from the Managing Authority, DARD, NIAO, the Audit Authority and other external auditors.

The following parties will be responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of the governance framework.

Members will be reminded of all relevant good governance issues that must be adopted at monthly meetings of the Joint Council Committee and any other relevant decision making meetings.

A designated member of the Senior Management Team within the Lead Administrative Council for the Joint Committee is required to sign an Assurance Declaration which ultimately passes up the line to the Chief Executive of the Lead Administrative Council who is required to sign the overall Council Governance Statements (also signed by the Chair of the Lead Administrative Council's Audit Committee).

Internal Audit of Lisburn City Council acting on behalf of the Joint Committee will provide an independent and objective opinion on risk management, control and governance by measuring and evaluating their effectiveness in achieving the Joint Council Committee's agreed objectives.

The above represents all the parties involved in the review of effectiveness and there are no additional review/assurance/risk management procedures and/or Overview & Scrutiny Committees.

If appropriate, the Joint Council Committee are advised of any implications as a result of the review of effectiveness of the governance framework by the Lead Administrative Council's Audit Committee, and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is put in place.

Overall control of the governance framework and system of internal controls is the responsibility of the Joint Committee. Regular meetings, policy documents and periodic progress reports enable the Joint Committee to examine and evaluate the progress made and address issues affecting the implementation of the Joint Committee Strategy Plan.

The Lead Council has responsibility for the preparation of this Annual Governance Statement, as well as the Lead Partner Assurance Statement for submission to DARD, as the Managing Authority. In preparing this statement, the Lead Council has considered the governance framework and system of internal controls in place.

In undertaking this review account has been taken of Guidance on the Local (Accounts and Audit) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 issued by the Department of the Environment in February 2008. The Chief Executive of Lisburn City Council leads the Council's Senior Management Team to collectively have involvement in and oversight of the processes involved in maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of the governance framework, this includes the delivery of the Council's responsibilities as Lead Council for the Joint Committee. Progress on the implementation of the Joint Committee Strategy Plan and issues arising are reviewed and reported to the Lead Partner Council by way of Council reports.

In producing this statement, full regard has been made to Lisburn City Council's Corporate Risk Register and where appropriate, Statements of Assurance relating to the Joint Committee are provided by each Director to the Chief Executive for the year ended 31st March 2015.

Internal Audit of Lisburn City Council acting on behalf of the Joint Council Committee provides an independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's system of internal control. This extends to reviewing the arrangements in place for Joint Committee Projects, which will be reviewed on a periodic basis as part of an on-going programme of work. Internal Audit reports any deficiencies in internal control to the Senior Management Team whose responsibility it is to consider any recommendations made and to take necessary remedial action. The results of the work of Internal Audit are also reported to the Lead Council's Audit Committee at least three times each year to ensure that continuous improvements take place. These reports to Audit Committee include a follow-up report to ensure that actions previously agreed by the Management Team are implemented on a timely basis.

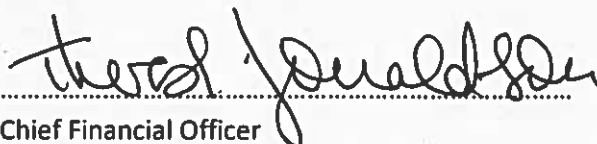
Lisburn City Council undertake an annual review of the effectiveness of Internal Audit in line with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards 2013. This review proved satisfactory.

The Chief Executive for the Lead Council will advise the Joint Committee of the results and implications of the review of the effectiveness of the governance framework as appropriate.


On-going review and update of the governance framework and internal controls will ensure continual improvement and a robust governance framework.

Significant governance issues

There were no significant governance issues relating to the Joint Committee noted to date.

Signature 
Chief Financial Officer

Date 27 October 2015

Signature 
Chairman

Date 27 October 2015

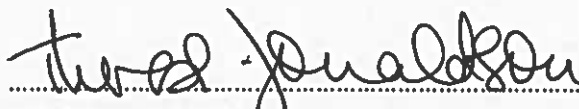
Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that :-

- a) The Statement of Accounts for the financial period ended 31st March 2015 on pages 14 to 24 has been prepared in the form directed by the Department of the Environment and under the accounting policies set out on pages 18-19.

- b) In my opinion the Statement of Accounts give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year.

Signature


.....
Chief Financial Officer

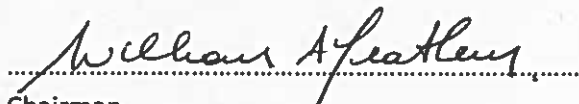
Date

27 October 2015

Committee Approval of Statement of Accounts

These accounts were approved by resolution of the Governance and Audit Committee on 26 June 2015.

Signature


.....
Chairman

Date

27 October 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LAGAN RURAL PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

I have audited the financial statements of Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee for the year ended 31 March 2015 under the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005. The financial statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, and the related notes. The financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them.

This report is made solely to the Members of Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee in accordance with the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and for no other purpose, as specified in the Statement of Responsibilities. Under the transitional arrangements set out in the Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations Northern Ireland) 2014, the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council takes responsibility for the financial statements of the Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee.

Respective responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer and the independent auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Joint Committee's and Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year. My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and the Local Government Code of Audit Practice. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Statement of Accounts to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with relevant legal and statutory requirements and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15, of the financial position of Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee as at 31 March 2015 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 and the Department of the Environment directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion the information given in the Explanatory Foreword for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- The Annual Governance Statement:
 - does not reflect compliance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15;
 - does not comply with proper practices specified by the Department of the Environment; or
 - is misleading or inconsistent with other information I am aware of from my audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the statement of accounts is not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit.

Certificate

I certify that I have completed the audit of accounts of Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and the Local Government Code of Audit Practice.



Louise Mason

Local Government Auditor

Northern Ireland Audit Office

106 University Street

Belfast

BT7 1EU

28 October 2015

Movement in Reserves Statement

	Total Usable Reserves £	Total Unusable Reserves £	Total Reserves £
At 1st April 2013	-16041	-2112	-18153
Movement in reserves during the year			
Surplus or deficit on provision of services	0	0	0
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	16041	2112	18153
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	16041	2112	18153
At 31st March 2014	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Movement in reserves during the year			
Surplus or deficit on provision of services	0	0	0
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0
At 31st March 2015	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

	Notes	2014/15 £	2013/14 £
Income			
Government Grant	2a/2b & 3	222,005	203,931
Total Income		<u>222,005</u>	<u>203,931</u>
Expenditure			
Financial Assistance to Beneficiaries	2a/2b & 4	0	0
Staff Costs	6	187,478	159,793
Employment Expenses		158	122
Premises Costs		11,128	10,886
Supplies and Services		4,891	9,512
Travel and Subsistence Costs		8,716	9,784
Administration Costs		3,021	7,246
Sundry Expenses 1		3,079	3,076
Sundry Expenses 2		3,534	3,512
		<u>222,005</u>	<u>203,931</u>
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		0	0
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Balance Sheet

		2015	2014
	Notes	£	£
Short Term Debtors	7	71,538	53,921
Current Assets		<u>71,538</u>	<u>53,921</u>
Short Term Creditors	8	71,538	53,921
Current Liabilities		<u>71,538</u>	<u>53,921</u>
Net Assets		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Usable Reserves		0	0
Unusable Reserves		0	0
Net Worth		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Cash Flow Statement	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services	0	0
Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing	9	-18,153
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	<u>0</u>	<u>-18,153</u>
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	0	0
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	0	18,153
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	0	0
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

1 Accounting Policies

General Principles

The Financial Statements summarise the Joint Committee's transactions for the 2014/15 financial year and its position at the end of 31st March 2015. The Joint Committee is required to prepare annual Financial Statements in a form directed by the Department of the Environment in accordance with regulations 4 (1) and (2) in the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15 supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

i) Accruals of Income and Expenditure

The Financial Statements have been prepared on an accruals basis. The accruals basis of accounting requires the non-cash effect of transactions to be reflected in the Financial Statements for the year in which those effects are experienced and not in the year in which the cash is actually received or paid. This ensures that provision has been made for known outstanding debtors and creditors at the year end, estimated amounts being used where actual figures are not available.

ii) Employee Benefits

Short-term employee benefits payable during employment, such as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees, are recognised as an expense in the year in which employees render service to the Joint Committee. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements earned by employees but not taken before the year-end and which employees can carry forward into the next financial year.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Joint Committee to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Joint Committee is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Reserves balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Joint Committee to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post Employment Benefits

Employees of the Joint Committee are members of the Northern Ireland Local government Officers Scheme (NILGOSC) by virtue of their employment by Lisburn City Council as lead Council of the project. The scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Lisburn City Council.

NILGOSC

The NILGOSC is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme.

The assets and liabilities of the NILGOSC attributable to the Joint Committee are included in the Balance Sheet of Lisburn City Council. No assets nor liabilities are recognised in the accounts for Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Council Committee.

iii) Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and Council contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Joint Committee when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Joint Committee will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attaching to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to Government Grants in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Reserves Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

iv) Value Added Tax

All expenditure and income, irrespective of whether it is revenue or capital in nature, is shown net of Value Added Tax, unless it is irrecoverable.

2a Segmental Report - Current Year

In accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement should be supported by information on individual reportable segments presented within the notes. Reportable segments are based on the Joint Committee's internal management reporting, for example departments, directorates or portfolios. For each reportable segment, an analysis of the income and expenditure for that segment (ie a subjective analysis) is presented, to include those items of income and expenditure that are reported as part of internal management reporting. This analysis may include items that do not form part of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (for example, that statutory provision for the repayment of debt) and exclude items that do form part of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (for example, depreciation).

	Administration	Total
	£	£
Government Grants	222,005	222,005
Total Income	222,005	222,005
Staff Costs	187,478	187,478
Employment Expenses	158	158
Other Costs	34,369	34,369
Total Expenditure	222,005	222,005
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0

2b Segmental Report - Prior Year

	Administration	Total
	£	£
Government Grants	203,931	203,931
Total Income	<u>203,931</u>	<u>203,931</u>
Financial Assistance to Beneficiaries	0	0
Staff Costs	159,793	159,793
Employment Expenses	122	122
Other Costs	44,016	44,016
Total Expenditure	<u>203,931</u>	<u>203,931</u>
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

**Lagan Rural Partnership
Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31st March 2015

3 Government Grants	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Administration	222,005	203,931
	222,005	203,931

4 Financial payments to beneficiaries

In the 14/15 Financial Year, the Joint Committee recommended the following payments to DARD to be paid to beneficiaries under Axis 3 of the Rural Development Programme:

Theme	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
3 Diversification into Non-Agriculture Activities	331,906	199,740
3 Business Creation and Development	-2,069	74,945
3 Encouragement of Tourism Activities	410,595	716,996
3 Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population	350,037	727,764
4 Village Renewal and Development	256,302	348,139
4 Conservation and Upgrading of Rural Heritage	585,658	260,313
	1,932,429	2,327,897

5 External Audit Fees	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
External Audit Fees	3,500	3,500
	3,500	3,500

The audit fee is given in the Audit Strategy by the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

6 Staff Costs	2014/15	2013/14
	£	£
Salaries	151,987	125,145
National Insurance	9,575	8,977
Pension Costs	25,916	25,120
Agency Staff Costs	0	551
	187,478	159,793

	2014/15	2013/14
	FTE	FTE
Total Staff Numbers	4	4
	Actual Numbers	Actual Numbers
Full-time numbers employed	3	3
Part-time numbers employed	2	2
	5	5

8 Short Term Creditors		2015	2014
		£	£
Councils		68,038	50,421
Other		3,500	3,500
		<u>71,538</u>	<u>53,921</u>

9 Cash Flow Note – Analysis of Adjustments to Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	Note	2014/15	2013/14
		£	£
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	7	(17,617)	34,300
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	8	17,617	(52,453)
		<u>0</u>	<u>(18,153)</u>

10 Related Party Transactions

A Related Party Transaction is a transfer of resources or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged. Related Party Transactions exclude transactions with any other entity that is a related party solely because of its economic dependence on the Joint Committee or the Government of which it forms part.

A related party is one that has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decisions. This includes cases where the related party entity and another entity are subject to common control but excludes providers of finance in the course of their normal business with the Joint Committee and Trade Unions in the course of their normal dealings with the Joint Committee.

In addition where the relationship with the Joint Committee and the entity is solely that of an Agency, these are not deemed to be Related Party Transactions.

Transactions with related parties not disclosed elsewhere in these financial statements are set out below, where a description of the nature and the amount of the transaction is as follows:

Members have direct control over the Joint Committee's financial and operating policies. In the 2014/15 financial year the Joint Committee commissioned ENIL of works and services from Companies in which Members have an interest. The Joint Committee entered into these contracts in full compliance with the Joint Committee's standing orders and codes of conduct.

The Joint Committee also paid grants of £1,257,964 (2013-14 £1,345,619) to a number of organisations in which Members and executive officers had an interest. These grants were made with proper consideration of declaration of interests.

Name of Organisation	Grant	Member
	£	
Streamvale Farm	11,500	Clr Tim Morrow
Lisburn City Council		
Rural Play Parks Regeneration Scheme	10,442	Clr Thomas Beckett, Clr Andrew Ewing,
Lough Neagh Co Operation Project	936	Clr James Baird, Clr Uel Mackin, Clr Luke
Maghaberry Sports Hall	126,358	Poots, Clr Alexander Redpath and Clr
Moira Demesne Regeneration Scheme	575,458	Brian Heading are members on these 8
Village Gateway Features	2,000	projects.
Milltown Village Renewal	1,570	
Maghaberry Village Renewal	1,442	
Milltown Village Renewal (Phase 2)	61,223	
	<u>779,429</u>	
Castlereagh Borough Council		
Moneyreagh Village Renewal	64,651	Clr Tim Morrow, Ald Jack Beattie MBE
Lock Keeper's Cottage, Barge and Visitors Services	300,356	and Clr Anne- Marie Beattie are
	<u>365,007</u>	members on these 2 projects.
Belfast City Council		
Hannahstown Village Action Plan Phase 2 Trail	99,944	Clr Arder Carson is a member on these 2
	2,086	projects.
	<u>102,030</u>	

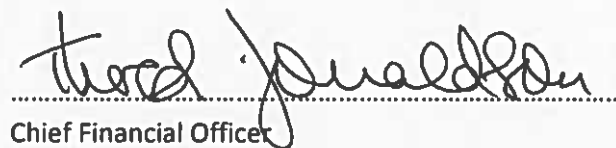
Accounts Authorised for the Issue Certificate

In accordance with International Accounting Standard 10, Events after the Balance Sheet Date (IAS 10) this Statement of Accounts which contains a number of minor amendments from the Accounts approved on 26 June 2015 are at today's date hereby authorised for issue.

IAS 10 sets out

- The period during which an entity should adjust its financial statements for events after the balance sheet date as being the period between the date the financial statements were prepared and the date of this authorisation; and
- In the event of adjustments the disclosures that should be made.

Signed


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Chief Financial Officer

Dated:

27 October 2015