**Significant variations between Accounting Statements for 2017-18 and 2018-19**

**Box 4: Staff costs**

2017-18: £1,966

2018-19: £2,508

Staff costs for 2018-19 have consisted of the pay of one individual for the whole financial year, something the Council has not experienced for many years.

The Council began 2017-18 without a Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and the individual appointed early in the financial year moved soon afterwards from Oxfordshire to Somerset. He therefore continued on a limited basis while the Council looked for a new Clerk/RFO.

So an increase in staff costs was probably to be expected given that the Council was fully staffed for the whole financial year but it is too early to say whether the staff costs for 2018-19 will represent a level which will now stabilise.

Geoffrey Ferres

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Sunday 16th June 2019