

REPORT TO FINAL ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

29th JUNE 2006

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL 2005/2006

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To present to the Final Accounts and Audit Committee the draft Statement on Internal Control for 2005/2006 (attached as Appendix 1).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the draft Statement on Internal Control is noted.

3. Links to the Corporate Business Plan

- 3.1. The Statement on Internal Control is a key part of the Council's governance work. Good governance must underpin all the work within the Corporate Plan.

4. General Background Information

- 4.1. Under the Accounts and Audit regulations 2003 the Council is required to conduct a review of the effectiveness of the systems of internal control at least annually. The Statement on Internal Control represents the end result of the review. The Statement on Internal Control forms a part of the statement of accounts.
- 4.2. The review is informed by the work of Internal Audit and managers throughout the Council, who have responsibility for maintaining the control environment. The review is also informed by work undertaken by the Audit Commission and other external review agencies.
- 4.3. The Statement also draws on the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance, and outstanding issues from the code have been reflected in the issues arising in the Statement. A copy of the Code has been attached to this report (attached as Appendix 2).
- 4.4. The Statement was reported to the Executive at their meeting on the 15th of June for their approval.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. None.

6. Community & Environmental Implications

- 6.1. None.

7. Equal Opportunities Implications

- 7.1. None.

8. Human Resources Implications

8.1. None.

9. Documentation used in the preparation of this report

9.1. Background papers

**REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER TO THE FINAL ACCOUNTS
AND AUDIT COMMITTEE 29th JUNE 2006**

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