

COMPLETION OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2006/07**Report By: THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES****Wards Affected**

None wards affected.

Purpose

To report on issues surrounding this year's closedown of accounts.

Financial Implications

None.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be noted and endorsed.

Reasons

To inform the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee about the 2006/07 closedown arrangements.

Considerations

1. Legally the requirement under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 is to have the 2006/07 Statement of Accounts approved by no later than 30 June. A meeting of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee has been arranged for 29 June 2007.
2. The 2006/07 Closedown timetable meets the statutory requirement in full. We remain committed to closing the accounts as soon as possible after the year-end.
3. The completion of the external audit and the final publication of the Statement of Accounts will have to be completed by 30th September 2007.
4. For the second year we will be producing a shorter summary accounts document and we will be carrying out a process of consultation on the content and format.
5. The format and content of the formal Statement of Accounts is determined each year by CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting and there are a number of changes to the 2006/07 Statement of Accounts: -
 - (a) The removal of notional interest from the capital charges to services in the published accounts. This does not have an effect on the 'bottom line' charge to council tax but will reduce the level of spend shown in services.
 - (b) There is a new set of core statements, which will be presented in a specified

order, followed by a consolidated set of notes;

- Income and Expenditure Account
- Statement of Movement on the General Fund Balance
- Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement

(c) These statements present the figures in a completely new way, but the 2005/06 figures will be restated to allow a consistent comparison.

6. Timetables for the closedown process and for production of the Statement of Accounts are attached.

Risk Management

If the closedown procedures are not followed and legal deadlines not achieved this would have an adverse impact on the council's Use of Resources assessment

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Closedown timetable 2006/07
- Statement timetable 2006/07