COUNCIL 27TH APRIL, 2007

REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting held on 13th April, 2007

Membership:

Councillors: A.C.R. Chappell,(Chairman) Mrs. P.A. Andrews, H. Bramer, T.M. James, J.G. Jarvis, R.I. Matthews, Mrs. S.J. Robertson.

COMPLETION OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2006/07

The Committee has noted and endorsed changes made to the format and content of the Council's formal Statement of Accounts which is determined each year in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) and Accountancy Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. Following the Committee's decision, the Statement of Accounts will be submitted for approval to a meeting of the Committee scheduled to be held in June to enable the completion of the external Audit and final publication of the Accounts by 30th September 2007.

AUDIT STRATEGY 2007/08

2. The Committee has reviewed and approved the Audit Strategy for 2007/08. The adoption of the Audit Strategy represents best practice as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice for integral part of the Council's Internal Audit in Local Government (2006) and is an integral part of the Council's Internal Controls procedures under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment Use of Resources.

AUDIT PLAN 2007/08

The Committee has adopted the Audit Plan for 2007/08. In reaching its decision, the Committee has noted that the Audit Plan represents best practice as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government and is an integral part of the Council's Internal Controls procedures under the Comprehensive Assessment Use of Resources and also highlights how the Council will comply with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

AUDIT SERVICES UPDATED INTERIM ASSURANCE REPORT NO 2

The Committee has noted a report which has updated and advised Members on work status and key control issues in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the United Kingdom

PROGRESS ON THE COUNCIL'S 2006/07 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL

5 The Committee has noted the progress being made in relation to the completion of the Council's Statement of Internal Control.

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USE OF RESOURCES ACTION PLAN

6. The Committee has received a report which set out in detail the Use of Resources Action Plan for 2006/07 and which highlights specific actions to be taken by appropriate officers with timescales The report followed on from a previous report to the Committee in January this year which outlined key areas requiring action.

A.C.R. CHAPPELL CHAIRMAN AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Agenda papers of the meeting of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee held on 13th April 2007