Committee: Date:	Performance Select Committee 13 November 2008	Agenda Item
Title:	Annual Governance Statements 2007/08 and 2008/09	4
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Summary

The purpose of this report is to present a timetable and framework for the review and monitoring of the significant control and governance issues identified in the 2007/08 Annual Governance Statement and for the preparation of the 2008/09 Statement.

Recommendations

None

Background Papers

Previous Annual Governance Statement report to this committee

The Annual Governance Statement 2007-08

UDC Assurance framework

Impact

Communication/Consultation	This report has been circulated to the Strategic Management Board
Community Safety	None identified
Equalities	None identified
Finance	None identified
Human Rights	None identified
Legal implications	This is a requirement set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 in relation to the publication of an Annual Governance Statement.
Sustainability	None identified
Ward-specific impacts	None identified

Workforce/Workplace	None identified

Situation

Under the Council's constitution this committee is responsible for overseeing the Council's work around corporate governance. In 2007/08 the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) revised the approach to corporate governance and published a new framework for good governance. This builds on the current assurance gathering process but it requires a lot more descriptive detail to be included in the actual Statement.

For the first time this year an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) was requisite part of the published statement of accounts and replaced the previous Statement on the System of Internal Control.

Annual Governance Statement 2007-08

In the Annual Governance Statement 2007-08, the Council identified a number of significant control and governance issues which need to be addressed to improve control and governance throughout the Council.

The AGS Working Group has reviewed the significant control and governance issues and to ensure action is taken on these issues have drawn up a Management Action Plan attached as appendix 1 to this report.

Annual Governance Statement 2008-09

CIPFA guidelines are that the AGS should be reviewed at least once a year but should not be seen simply as an end of year activity to comply with legislation. They have produced an AGS framework and a possible sequence of preparation and reporting for the statement (appendix 2) which we propose to use as the basis for our review and preparation of the 2008-09 statement.

To this end we have drawn up the timetable for the review and monitoring of control and governance issues identified in the 2007/08 Annual Governance Statement and for the preparation of the 2008/09 Statement attached as appendix 3 to this report.

Annual Governance Statements 2007/08 and 2008/09

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Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
No Annual Governance Statement is produced for inclusion in the Financial Accounts	1 = Little or no likelihood Timetable and Framework to be established for the review, monitoring and preparation of the Annual Governance Statement	3 = Significant impact – action required Statutory requirement, adverse Audit Commission Report	The Annual governance Statement is reviewed by the Audit Commission and by the Performance Select Committee