

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Performance Select Committee</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>14 May 2009</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Annual Governance Statement 2008/09</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sheila Bronson – Audit Manager ext 610</b>	Item for Decision

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### Summary

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Annual Governance Statement for inclusion into the Council's published financial accounts for 2008/09.

### Recommendations

- 2 That Members approved the draft Annual Governance Statement 2008/09 for inclusion in the Council's published financial accounts for 2008/09.

### Background Papers

- 3 Draft Annual Governance Statement - appendix 1

### Impact

Communication/Consultation	This draft Annual Governance Statement has been agreed by 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**

- 4 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.

The Annual Governance Statement is a requisite part of the published statement of accounts and replaces the previous Statement on the System of Internal Control. One of the previous good practice recommendations is that this Statement should be considered separate to the published accounts, which will come to the June meeting of this committee.

The Annual Governance Statement 2008/09 in appendix 1 has been drawn up based on the template created for the 2007/08 statement and has been reviewed and update to reflect the operation of the Council’s during 2008/09. It has been agreed by the Strategic Management Board at their meeting 06 May 2009.

Evidence in support of the Annual Governance Statement is being prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Finance Advisory Network guidance for examination by the Audit Commission as part of their 2007/08 Audit and on completion will be available to members on request.

**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