

meeting **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

date **17 MAY 2011**

agenda item number **8**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR (FINANCE)

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2010/11

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the proposed Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 and to invite Members to consider and approve the Statement prior to its accompanying the Statement of Accounts 2010/11.

2. Information and Advice

- 2.1 The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 require the Authority to review the effectiveness of its system of internal control and publish an annual governance statement, prepared in accordance with proper practices in relation to internal control.
- 2.2 Using CIPFA/SOLACE guidance, an Annual Governance Statement has been produced and is attached. It has been compiled by a small corporate group which has considered the governance arrangements in place.
- 2.3 As the Statement covers corporate governance and risk management issues, it needs to be referred to Cabinet and/or Full Council which will be done as part of the approval process for the Statement of Accounts 2010/11.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The Statement is required to demonstrate the Authority has a sound system of governance and internal control in place. This is important for the overall control of the Authority's finances as well as other areas of its operation. However, it has no direct financial implications.

4. Equal Opportunities Implications

- 4.1 There are none arising from this report.

5. Crime and Disorder Implications

5.1 None.

6. Recommendations

6.1 That the Committee endorses the Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 and makes any comments or recommendations which it considers ought to be included in the report which is required to be taken to the next appropriate Council meeting, to accompany the Statement of Accounts 2010/11.

ALAN SUMBY
SERVICE DIRECTOR (FINANCE)

Background Papers Available for Inspection

Nil