



meeting

COUNTY COUNCIL

date

29 MARCH 2007

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

REVISED COUNTY COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek County Council approval to the revised Financial Regulations.

Information and Advice

2. The Financial Regulations provide guidance on the appropriate procedures to be followed for the financial management and financial administration of Council affairs.

The Authority's Financial Regulations have been reviewed and updated to take account of recent changes in legislation, technological advances, new ways of working, the need to update financial thresholds and the Authority's new organisational arrangements.

These revised regulations now:

- i) encourage the development of more efficient supply arrangements through the use of partnership working and framework agreements;
- ii) impose more stringent requirements on Departments to use corporate procurement arrangements and in-house providers;
- iii) facilitate the adoption of new electronic purchasing and payment technologies;
- iv) provide a more coherent and clearer set of regulations which are easier to use.

Consultation on these revised regulations has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property, and the Council's Audit Committee has also contributed to this review.

Statutory and Policy Implications

3. The Authority's Financial Regulations are included in the Constitution. There are no Equal Opportunities considerations or Crime and Disorder implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

4. None.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. It is recommended that the County Council:-
 - a) approve the revised Financial Regulations
 - b) authorise the Monitoring Officer to make the appropriate changes to the Authority's Constitution to incorporate the new Financial Regulations.
 - c) authorise the Council's Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Council's Monitoring Officer to make such operational changes to the Financial Regulations as may be reasonably necessary for the proper conduct of the Council's financial affairs provided that such changes are not substantial in impact or effect.

ARTHUR DEAKIN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

Legal Comments (HD 12 March 2007)

The Council is authorised to approve changes to the Council's Constitution of which the Financial Regulations form a part.

Background Papers Available for Inspection

None