

RESOURCES COMMISSION MINUTE OF 10 APRIL 2006

99/05 – **THE AUDIT AND INSPECTION PLAN 2006/07:** The Chair invited Julie Talbot to introduce the report and who then referred to the distinction between business risks and audit risks and referred to the timetable for the Audit and Inspection Plan for 2006/07. The issues that would be addressed during the audit and inspections had been the subject of discussions held at an earlier meeting of the Commission. Julie Talbot then referred to the new financial systems that represented key audit risks for the Authority and which the Audit Commission would be monitoring.

The Chair then invited Members' questions in relation to the report. Councillor Theakston queried the percentage increase in the Audit and Inspection fee for 2006/07. The increase represented 8% on the fee for 2005/06 and it was noted that while most other authorities and bodies were being encouraged to find savings this was an increase. The Director of Resources had queried the same issue with the Audit Commission. The Director also advised that the fee estimate for 2004/05 which was not shown in the Appendix had actually been higher than the estimate for 2005/06 and, therefore, an increase in the audit and inspection fee was not only overdue but was anticipated to have been slightly higher than a simple annual increase. Members also questioned the fee for the certification of claims and returns. The Director of Resources commented that the fee of £24000 was not considered to be too significant bearing in mind the Council's claims were in the region of £20 million. The report was then noted, **agreed** and approved.

(6.28 pm – 6.40 pm)