

MATTERS WHICH ARE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION

06/06 - **STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL 2005/2006:** The Chair welcomed Julie Talbot from the Audit Commission who was observing the evening's proceedings regarding this item and that under Minute 10/06 below. The Corporate Improvement Officer (Governance) submitted a written report with regard to the above. The report had been considered by the Council Resources Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting held on 7 June 2006. The Officer explained that it was not a statement in isolation and was retrospective for 2005/06. Item 5 on page 9 of the Statement attached to the report relating to establishing an effective Governance Panel would be considered at tonight's meeting at agenda item 7- Overview and Scrutiny Development. In answer to Members' questions, the Council's Audit Manager gave details of the responsible officers in connection with the Whistle Blowing Policy. The Corporate Improvement Officer (Governance) explained that, as detailed in paragraph 5.11 of the report, the independent challenge was undertaken by a body not involved in the preparation of the Statement, ie the audit committee.

(Councillor Cooper declared a general personal interest in any matter relating to the use of HIC facilities by his employer).

RECOMMENDED (UNANIMOUSLY):

That the Statement on Internal Control 2005/2006 be approved for publication with the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts.

(5.32 pm to 5.37 pm)