

Statement of Internal Control – Review of Directorate Control Weaknesses

Directorate	Progress made during 2006/07 to rectify Directorate control weaknesses	Control weaknesses remaining as identified by each Directorate (categorised as Poor/No Control)
Chief Executive's	Some controls reclassified as satisfactory (from good), otherwise continuing progress has been made to address identified weaknesses.	Business Continuity – service area business continuity plans incomplete.
City Strategy	Continuing progress has been made to address identified weaknesses.	<p>Multi year financial planning – no corporate framework and only limited forecasting done at Directorate level.</p> <p>Major project / partnership risks assessments – some good practice but generally poor.</p> <p>Registers of staff interests / gifts and hospitality – directorate procedures need to be updated once corporate guidance issued.</p>
Housing and Adult Social Services	Continuing progress has been made to address identified weaknesses.	<p>Procedure notes for financial systems/processes – departmental procedures incomplete.</p> <p>Whistleblowing Policy – lack of staff awareness.</p> <p>Registers of staff interests – directorate procedures need to be updated once corporate guidance issued.</p>

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Learning, Culture and Children's Services	Continuing progress has been made to address identified weaknesses.	<p>Multi year financial planning – no corporate framework and long term forecasting only done for schools (in accordance with DfES guidance).</p> <p>Business Continuity – service area business continuity plans still need to be prepared.</p>
Neighbourhood Services	Continuing progress has been made to address identified weaknesses.	<p>Delegated authority scheme – the proposed Directorate scheme still needs to be approved.</p> <p>Multi year financial planning – not done and no corporate framework.</p> <p>Major project / partnership risks assessments – not done at a Directorate level.</p> <p>Registers of staff interests – directorate procedures need to be updated once corporate guidance issued.</p> <p>Gifts and hospitality register – consistent procedures required to report gifts/hospitality, and raise awareness.</p>

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		Business Continuity – service area business continuity plans still need to be prepared.
Resources	Continuing progress has been made to address identified weaknesses.	<p>Delegated authority scheme – the proposed Directorate scheme still needs to be approved.</p> <p>Multi year financial planning – awaiting corporate guidance.</p> <p>Whistleblowing Policy – directorate procedures need to be updated once corporate guidance issued. Staff awareness also needs to be improved.</p> <p>Registers of staff interests / gifts and hospitality – directorate procedures need to be updated once corporate guidance issued.</p>
Corporate	OGG action plan developed and good progress made to address identified weaknesses.	Local Code of Corporate Governance (CIPFA/SOLACE) – the Council has not yet adopted a local Code. However, overall governance arrangements considered to be adequate. The CIPFA/SOLACE guidance is also due to be updated in 2007/08.

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		<p>Performance management – action to address poor performance is inconsistent across services.</p> <p>Whistleblowing Policy – the corporate policy requires updating. Staff awareness issues also need to be addressed.</p> <p>Corporate Procurement Strategy – work on this is still progressing.</p>