

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEETING**  
**30TH MARCH 2006**

**Corporate Governance Framework**

<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME</b>	Internal Organisational theme
<b>CORPORATE PLAN THEME</b>	Improving Corporacy and Performance
<b>KEY PRIORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Corporate Development</li><li>• Organisational Performance</li></ul>
<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>	Councillor John-Paul Campion (Finance & Corporate Affairs)
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	Walter Delin, Chief Executive
<b>CONTACT OFFICER</b>	Peter Jones, Corporate Performance advisor (Ext 2723) Email:peter.jones@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
<b>APPENDICES</b>	Appx 1: Corporate Gov. Framework Appx 2: Progress Report (2005/06) Appx 3: Proposed Action (2006/07)

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To review the Council's Corporate Governance Framework (CGF).

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet is asked to **DECIDE:**

- 2.1 The updated Corporate Governance Framework (CGF) in Appendix 1 to this report be agreed.
- 2.2 Action taken in accordance with the CGF during 2005/06, contained in Appendix 2, be noted.
- 2.3 Proposed action to be taken in 2006/07, as set out in Appendix 3, be agreed.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Council first adopted a CGF in February 2003, based on a framework developed by CIPFA/SOLACE specifically for local authorities. This defines 'Corporate Governance' as "the system by which local authorities direct and control their functions and relate to their communities".

- 3.2 The CGF is reviewed each year and a report is prepared for the Cabinet containing:
- i) An updated framework for approval, which reflects any recent changes to the Council's structures, procedures and relevant documents
  - ii) A summary of action taken during the previous year with regard to corporate governance matters, and
  - iii) Proposed action to be taken in the forthcoming year.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 Information relating to i), ii) and iii) above is set out in **Appendix 1, Appendix 2 and Appendix 3** respectively.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### **6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The contents of this report are within the Council's existing policy framework.

#### **7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 Corporate governance is the framework of accountability to service users, stakeholders and wider community, within which organisations take decisions and lead and control their functions to achieve their objectives<sup>1</sup>. Adoption, implementation and regular monitoring of a formal framework (in this case, our CGF) reduces the likelihood of the Council failing to achieve these ends.

#### **8. CONSULTEES**

- 8.1 Corporate Management Team

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 Corporate Governance in Local Government: A Keystone for Community Governance (*CIPFA / SOLACE, 2001*)

<sup>1</sup> Corporate Governance Inspection Consultation Document (*Audit Commission, July 2005*)