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## Corporate Governance Panel

Report of the meeting held on 29th September 2005

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### Matter for Decision

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#### 8. REVIEW OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

The Panel has considered a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is attached at the Appendix hereto) on the findings of a review by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels of the way in which scrutiny is carried out within the Council. The review proposes changes to the structure and composition of the Panels and the adoption of an action plan for the future development of the overview and scrutiny function.

The Panel has discussed the terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels suggested under the new structure, the potential difficulties associated with achieving political balance for the suggested Corporate and Strategic Framework Panel and the date when the new arrangements should be introduced. Having expressed the view that the changes should come into effect at the start of the next municipal year, the Panel

#### RECOMMEND

- (a) that a Corporate and Strategic Framework Overview and Scrutiny Panel be established, to be politically balanced as far as is practical, with the terms of reference set out in the attached report; and
- (b) that, at the Annual Meeting in May 2006, an additional 3 Members be appointed to each of the proposed Service Delivery and Service Support Panels and that consequential amendments be made to the Constitution to implement the aforementioned measures.

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### Matters for Information

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#### 9. CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Panel has been acquainted with the outcome of a review of the Council's Code of Corporate Governance. Having noted the main

areas in which changes have been made and on the understanding that in future the Code's dimensions will incorporate, where appropriate, indicative completion dates for achieving compliance, the Panel has adopted the revised Code.

**10. ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Pursuant to Item No.6 of their Report to the Council held on 28th September 2005, the Panel has approved the Statement of Assurance on Corporate Governance for 2004/05 and authorised the Chairman of the Panel and the Chief Executive to sign the Statement on behalf of the Council. The Statement summarises the corporate governance work carried out in 2004/05 and identifies matters to be addressed during 2005/06.

C J Stephens  
Chairman