

4.2 The report is an initial opportunity form members to make comment before final approval by the Accounts Committee (June 2007) of the draft Statement of accounts for 2006/07 and final approval by the same Committee in September 2007.

4.3 The draft report is attached and has can be seen 5 sections:

- Scope of responsibility
- Purpose of the system of internal control
- Internal control environment
- Review of effectiveness
- Significant internal control issues

4.4 A key piece of evidence in completing the review on the effectiveness of the system of internal control has been the Internal Auditors annual report. With regard to the Internal Auditors Annual Report, Members should note the continuing improvement made by Council in matters of internal control. This was also seen in the recent Use of Resources Auditor Judgments (March 2007) where the scoring on previous years increased overall in the area of Internal Control. Whilst recognising that there is still room for improvement, progress has been made in the last period and recent years.

5. COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

5.1 The Statement on Internal control deals with amongst other things financial matters

6. COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

6.1 The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

7. COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCES

7.1 The statement on Internal Control will indirectly have regard to Council policies, service performance and the Council effective management and implementation of Human Resources policies.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 The Statement on Internal control is Members initial opportunity to comment and recommend any changes to the report prior to approval by The Audit Committee.

9. RECOMMENDATION(S)

9.1 That Members note the report and make any necessary recommendations for change

9.2 That authority is delegated to the Head of Financial Services to make any further amendments (that are in the best interests of Council) prior to final approval by The Accounts Committee

10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

10.1 Portfolio Holder for A Well Managed Council

10.2 The Executive Director for Resources

10.3 Internal Audit

Contact Officer	
Name	Philip Seddon
Position	Head of Financial Services
Service / Team	Finance
Telephone	01706 252465
Email address	philseddon@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Or

No background papers (*delete where applicable*)