

By: Head of Audit and Risk **Item 6**  
Governance and Audit Committee – 30 June 2008

Subject: DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Classification: Unrestricted

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**Summary:** This report contains the Draft Annual Governance Statement for review and approval.

## **FOR APPROVAL**

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### **Introduction**

1. Kent County Council is required to prepare an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) with effect from 2007/08. The requirement was introduced in the Good Governance Framework, CIPFA SOLACE 2007, which sets out six principles of corporate governance underpinned by a number of supporting principles and specific requirements.
2. The AGS should include an evidence-based overview of how the Authority has adopted the principles of the Framework and adheres to its requirements.
3. The statement must be signed by the Lead Member for the Authority and the Chief Executive and included in the Authority's final accounts.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

4. Full details of the evidence base are provided and include the following;
  - Head of Internal Audit annual opinion (summary of internal audit assurance work for 2007/2008)
  - Managing Directors' assurance statements on Risk, Governance and Internal Control
  - Detailed list of risk and governance arrangements in place and operating in the Council throughout the year.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

5. That the help and support provided by officers during this process be acknowledged.
6. Members are asked to APPROVE the draft Annual Governance Statement.

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