

Report to: **Extraordinary Meeting of the District Council of Easington**

Date: **28th June 2007**

Report of: **Director of Finance and Corporate Services**

Subject: **The Statement of Accounts 2006/2007**

Ward:

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations issued by the central government set out the requirements for the production and publication of the Statement of Accounts. They require the statements to be presented to members for approval no later than the 30th June 2007.

2. Consultation

2.1 Prior to this meeting the Executive Committee and the Management Team will have considered the outturn report; the Audit Committee will have reviewed the statement of accounts and the statement of internal control. I have consulted with the Executive Member for Resources and the Financial Management Unit engaged with budget holders during preparation of the statements.

3. Position Statement

3.1 The detailed out-turn position will be reported to the Executive Committee on the 25th June 2007 and the details set out in that report are reflected in the statement.

3.2 The Statement of Accounts will be presented to the Audit Committee on the 27th June 2007. The role of that committee is to review the statement and bring any issues of concern to the attention of the Council when it considers the statements.

3.3 To allow time for consideration the statement of accounts has been circulated separately together with a letter, a summary of the document and a summary of the statutory financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2007. *qUÉÉÉ-ÇçAî ãÉáíé-éUçì ìÇ-ÁÉ-Áéçì ÚÚí-íç-íUÉ-` çì áÁá- j ÉÉíáòK-*

3.4 The summaries highlight the main issues from the accounts.

3.5 The Audit of Accounts is due to commence on the 16th July 2007 and should the Auditor raise any items of materiality then a further report will be submitted to the Council at a later date.

3.6 East Durham Homes (EDH) is classified as a subsidiary company of the Council and as such group accounts must be prepared to show the overall transactions of the Council including EDH but ignoring any transactions between the two organisations.

4. Implications

4.1 Policy

There are no policy implications.

4.2 **Legal**

It is a legal requirement under the Accounts and Audit Regulations that the Statement of Accounts be presented for approval to members by the 30th June 2007, and the statement of accounts should be signed and dated by the member presiding at the meeting at which the approval is given.

4.3 **Financial**

The detailed financial implications contained in this statement were reported and discussed at the Executive on the 25th June 2007 and the Audit Committee on the 27th. The report at this stage is for information.

4.4 **Risk**

The statements of accounts in essence are for information and it is not considered there are any risks attached to this process.

4.5 **Communications**

It is a statutory requirement that the Statements are published as soon as reasonably possible after the audit but no later than the 30th September 2007. Publication will involve placing them on the website, distribution to other Local Authorities and to the public upon request.

4.5.1 Following approval a more simplified statement will be prepared and distributed for the public.

4.6 **Corporate Plan and Priorities**

This report is in accordance with the Council's objectives and agreed priorities. In particular the report assists in achieving the following:

Priority 2 **Striving for excellence in the Workplace by ensuring we properly manage our resources making best use of residents' money and keeping council tax increases to a minimum.**

4.7 **Equality & Diversity**

This report has no direct Equality and Diversity issues.

4.8 **E-Government**

This report accords with the Financial Management Unit's commitment to meeting this years E-Government target.

4.9 **Procurement**

None.

5. **Recommendations**

5.1 Members are requested to approve the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2007.

Background documents referred to:

- i) Final Accounts Information 2006/7 Working Papers
- ii) Statements from the Financial Management System
- iii) Estimates for 2006/07 and 2007/8.