

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C/021/2005-06.

Date of meeting: 11 July 2005.



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Portfolio: Finance and Performance Management.

Subject: Consideration of the Statutory Statement of Accounts.

Officer contact for further information: Bob Palmer (01992 - 56 4279).

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992 - 56 4470).

Recommendations:

- (1) That the Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee be authorised to consider the Statutory Statement of Accounts; and**
- (2) That the Committee be authorised to report on the Statutory Statement of Accounts direct to the Council.**

Background:

1. The full Council or an Executive Committee is required to adopt the Council's Statutory Statement of Accounts prior to the end of July 2005. The timescale has been brought forward from last year when Accounts had to be adopted by 31 August.
2. The Council's Constitution reserves the adoption of the Accounts to full Council only. However, last year Cabinet agreed that the Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee would consider the Accounts before being submitted to the Council.
3. It is proposed that similar arrangements to last year are approved ad infinitum and that the Committee be authorised to report direct to the Council on the Statutory Statement of Accounts for this and future years.

Options for Action:

4. The Statutory Statement of Accounts could be considered at extraordinary meetings of the Cabinet instead of the Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee.

Statement in Support of the Recommended Action:

5. The detailed consideration of the Statement of Accounts involving questioning of officers is better suited to the setting of a Cabinet Committee.

Resource Implications:

Budget Provision: The cost of any additional meeting to be met from existing provision.

Personnel: Nil.

Land: Nil.

Community Plan/BVPP reference: Nil.

Relevant Statutory Powers: Accounts and Audit Regulations.

Background papers: Nil.

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: Nil.

Key Decision reference: Nil.