

TO CONCLUDE

We have been advised on the implications of the result of the review of the effectiveness of the governance framework by a group of senior officers and the audit committee, who conclude that a detailed plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is not required. The review of local government in Bedfordshire has determined that Mid Bedfordshire District Council will be superseded, as part of a new Authority Central Bedfordshire, to be set up from April 2009. Officers' attention and efforts during 2008/09 were targeted at creating sound governance arrangements for this new authority while ensuring that established systems operating in Mid Beds continued to function effectively in Mid Beds' final year.

5. SIGNIFICANT GOVERNANCE ISSUES

In last year's Annual Governance Statement, no significant governance issues were identified, where further improvements could be made to the control environment.

Following a review of our governance arrangements for 2008/09, the following significant control issues were identified, where areas of improvement are needed for the new Council:-

Ethical training for all staff needed.

Training for members of the Audit Committee in terms of role and responsibility is needed.

Risk Management training is appropriately aimed at all staff.

Governance arrangements to be defined and implemented.

No action plan is shown for the governance issues identified above, as it felt inappropriate to record actions for a new Council to implement. Instead, these issues are shown for the new Council to consider and action as deemed necessary.

P Turner MBE
Leader

21 July 2009

Dated

J Salisbury
Interim Chief Executive

Dated

21/7/09