

Section 2 – Statement of assurance

We acknowledge as the members of RYE TOWN COUNCIL/MEETING our responsibility for the preparation of the statement of accounts and for the council's internal controls, and confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the council's statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2006 in section 1, that:

	Agreed – Yes or No*	'Yes' means that the council:
1 we have approved the statement of accounts which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	YES	prepared its statement of accounts in the way prescribed by law.
2 we have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	YES	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3 we have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice which could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the council to conduct its business or on its finances.	YES	has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it has done so.
4 we have provided proper opportunity for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	YES	has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the council's accounts.
5 we have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the council and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	YES	considered the financial and other risks it faces in the operation of the council and has dealt with them properly.
6 we have maintained an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the council's accounting records and control systems.	YES	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the council.
7 we have taken what we consider to be appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	YES	has taken appropriate action in response to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8 we have considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the council and, where appropriate have included them in the statement of accounts.	YES	disclosed everything it should have about its business during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.

This Statement of Assurance is approved by the council and recorded as council minute reference

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dated 14 AUGUST 2006

Signed on behalf of RYE TOWN COUNCIL/MEETING

Signed by: Chair R. OSBORN Date 14 AUGUST 2006

Signed by: Clerk M. JILL Date 14 AUGUST 2006

* Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a **separate sheet** for each 'No' response that has been given; and describe what action is being taken to address the weaknesses identified.