



**Report to: Cabinet**

**Subject: Inspection Report**

**Date: 20 July 2006**

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The Council has recently been inspected by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners which oversees the operation of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act. The Chief Commissioner has subsequently written to the Council congratulating it on its high standard of compliance and noting that the Council is probably within the upper quartile of local authorities.

Following the inspection a minor change is required to the Council's policy in relation to the duration of authorisations for surveillance. The current policy provides for applications to be authorised for "the minimum time reasonable". The legislation provides for the authorisation to be for a period of 3 months, although subject to review, it is proposed that a change be made to the policy to reflect this.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

Cabinet are asked to:

1. Note the result of the inspection
2. To approve the alteration to the policy