

JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE
23 MARCH 2016

SUBJECT		DELIVERING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT: GUIDANCE FOR POLICE
REPORT BY		CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER & FORCE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER
CONTACT OFFICER		JULIE FLINT, CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER TEL: 01522 947222
SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF REPORT		
To inform the Committee of the current review of CIPFA's Good Governance Guidance for Police.		
RECOMMENDATION		<i>That the Committee notes the report.</i>

A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In 2012, CIPFA issued guidance for the police sector on good governance – see *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Guidance For Police* attached at Appendix A.
- 1.2 The guidance was drafted before the introduction of the reforms emanating from the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and before the development of the CIPFA/International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) *International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector (2014)*.
- 1.3 As a result, CIPFA, supported by the Police & Crime Commissioners Treasurers Society (PACCTS), the Association of Policing & Crime Chief Executives (APACE) and the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) is currently undertaking a review of the governance guidance for the police sector.
- 1.3 The review is considering, *inter alia*:
- in what ways police governance has changed since 2012;
 - the extent to which the police sector is distinct from the rest of local government;
 - the most helpful style for the guidance notes, including the potential to expand the discussion of risks and use of case studies;
 - the potential governance challenges arising from collaboration, strategic alliances and other joint arrangements.

- 1.4 It is intended that the new guidance will apply from 2016/17 and will be published in April 2016.

B. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

C. LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The Commissioner and the Chief Constable each has a statutory duty to prepare an annual governance statement - Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015.

D. PERSONNEL, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES (including any impact or issues relating to Children and Young People.)

None specific.

E. REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee will be updated once the new guidance has been issued.

F. RISK MANAGEMENT

Good governance

G. PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Information in this report along with any supporting material is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation.