Agenda Item No.

16

JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE
10 JUNE 2020

SUBJECT	**FINANCE REVIEW**
REPORT BY	**CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (CFO) & FORCE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (FCFO)**
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SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF REPORT To update the Committee on the progress made with the CIPFA Financial Management Capability Review.	
RECOMMENDATION	***That the Committee notes report***

A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 Background

1.1 Policing in England and Wales is a £14billion 'business', which means we must strive to achieve the highest standards of financial excellence.
As part of this, the PCC and Force have signed up to a two-year programme, called The Achieving Finance Excellence in Policing (AFEP).
It has been designed in partnership with The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), and driven from within the Finance and Coordinating Committee of the NPCC.
Both the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, and the Police and Crime Commissioners Treasurers Society are supportive.
Part of the programme involves a Financial Management Capability review, in both the Force and the PCC's office.

1.2 From June 2019 to October 2019, CIFPA conducted a Financial Resilience and Financial Management Capability Review (FMCR) at Lincolnshire Police. Gathering data through an electronic survey, one-to-one interviews with staff and a review of key documentation, and using a benchmark of best practice in the public sector, CIPFA has reviewed the financial resilience and quality of financial management of the organisation.

2.0 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide the Committee with the updated report following the initial draft presented in January. Since January the CIPFA consultant has received comments and made amendments accordingly. The structure of the report now groups the improvements under three key headlines. The revised report is attached at Appendix 1.

3.0 Next Step

3.1 The next step is to complete the improvement plan and assign lead responsibility to individuals. Additional resource is being considered to support driving the change.

B. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

C. LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable discharge their responsibilities to secure the maintenance of an efficient and effective police force under section 1 (6)(b) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and the Chief Finance Officer and Force Chief Finance Officer meet their responsibilities under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, section 73 of the Local Government Act 1985 and section 112 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for ensuring the proper administration of the Commissioner and Chief Constable's financial affairs.

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

There are no direct Personnel, Equal Opportunities and Diversity issues arising from this report.

E. REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee will receive the further updates on progress as appropriate.

F. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable include risks on financial procedures and processes as appropriate within the Corporate Finance risk register, with any significant items being included within the force wide register.

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.