Agenda Item No.

JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE
5 DECEMBER 2022

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SUBJECT	**FINANCE REVIEW**
REPORT BY	**CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (CFO) & DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES (S151)**
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SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF REPORT To update the Committee on the progress made with the AFEP Programme, Finance Restructure and future plans.	
RECOMMENDATION	***That the Committee notes report***

A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 Background

1.1 The Achieving Finance Excellence in Policing (AFEP) programme 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 PCC and the Force have signed up to the programme.
Part of the programme involves a Financial Management Capability review for the whole organisation, which looks at financial management capability not only within the finance function but throughout the wider organisation.

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 reviewed the financial resilience and quality of financial management of the organisation. The final report would be used to design a training and development programme to enhance the financial management capability throughout the organisation.

1.3 The decision to exit the strategic partnership contract with G4S in March 2022 halted progress on some aspects of this design process, as it would be necessary to carry out a full review and restructure of the Finance & Commercial functions following the end of the G4S contract and the insourcing of these departments. However, the report findings were useful in determining where capability gaps existed and were used to inform the

design of a restructured Finance and Commercial function which would provide a fit for purpose function following the insourcing of the majority of the services previously provided by G4S.

2.0 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide the Committee with a report which sets out the Finance & Commercial restructure and the next steps towards implementing the next stage of the FMCR recommendations. This report is attached at Appendix 1.

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.