Agenda Item No

7

JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE
04 October 2023

SUBJECT	**DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENTS**
REPORT BY	**OPCC CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER & DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES**
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SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF REPORT To review the preliminary drafts of CC and PCC Annual Governance statements.	
RECOMMENDATION	**That the Committee considers and notes the attached AGS drafts.**

A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 The Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) in association with the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) published the current '*Delivering Good Governance in Local Government'* Framework in 2016. This sets the standard for governance in local government in the UK. The Framework is intended to assist local government bodies develop and shape an informed approach to governance and to achieve the highest standards in a measured and proportionate way. The Framework was supplemented with specific guidance for policing bodies which was also revised by CIPFA in 2016.

1.1 The 2016 guidance[1] describes the characteristics of a sound annual review and Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

1.2 Attached to this document at **Appendix A and B** respectively is a draft version of the Chief Constable's and the PCC's AGS for 2022/23.

1.3 These draft AGS have been produced for the JIAC in advance of final drafts for submitting to the external auditors within the Financial Statements. These draft AGS may therefore contain some gaps in content as information is being finalised, also the conclusions reached, and messages relayed in the final draft AGS could differ from those contained in these preliminary drafts.

B. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no direct financial implications.

[1] CIPFA 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government' guidance notes for Policing Bodies in England and Wales (2016).

C. LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no direct considerations.

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

There are no direct issues.

E. REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

Arrangements for the review of governance are described within the code of corporate governance.

F. RISK MANAGEMENT

The management of risk is an integral part of the code of governance and the annual governance statement.

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.

[1] CIPFA 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government' guidance notes for Policing Bodies in England and Wales (2016).