

OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE

30th June 2016

Present: Mr R Leadbeter (Chair)
Mr J Sheppard, Mrs D Turner and Mr A Blackmore

Together with: Mr J Cuthbert – Police and Crime Commissioner (Commissioner)
Mr D Garwood-Pask – Chief Finance Officer (CFO)
Ms C Hawkins – Information Officer (IO)
Mr J Farrar – Chief Constable (CC)
Mr N Stephens – Assistant Chief Officer, Resources (ACOR)
Mrs R Kirk – Chief Superintendent, Service Development (HoSD)
Mr H Morgan – Financial Accountant (FA)
Mr M Coe – Wales Audit Office (WAO)
Mr M Veale – TIAA (IA)

The meeting commenced at 10:00 hours.

The Chair welcomed the new Commissioner to the meeting and extended congratulations on behalf of the Members on being elected as the latest office-holder for Gwent. The Commissioner thanked the Chair and expressed his pleasure to be in attendance at the first Joint Audit Committee meeting since taking office.

Action

The Chair also welcomed the CC, HoSD and IA to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr G Hughes, Mrs S Curley – Chief of Staff (CoS), Mr J Herniman – WAO, and Ms V Davies – TIAA.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. There were no advance declarations made in relation to the business to be transacted.

The Chair proposed that Item 4 to Item 9 be considered earlier on the Agenda in consideration of the volume of reports and the afternoon commitments of WAO and IA.

DRAFT JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

- Review of the Self-Assessment Action Plan
3. The Chair informed us that the Annual Report had been

prepared by the IO and was accompanied by a number of appendices that would be the subject of discussion in order to agree a final report for presentation to the Committee in September. We reviewed the contents of the covering report and the information set out in the draft Annual Report and Appendices. We noted the following typographical errors in the draft:

Action

- Page 1, first paragraph, last sentence – remove the word ‘now’;
- Page 2, second paragraph, second sentence – change ‘2016/16’ to ‘2015/16’; and
- Page 5, second paragraph, second sentence – change ‘was’ to ‘during’ and ‘is’ to ‘was’.

IO

We reviewed the information set out in the Appendix 2, ‘Joint Audit Committee Evidence of Compliance with Terms of Reference’ (ToR). We noted that this provided an informative assessment of how the Committee had met the requirements of its ToR during 2015/16. We discussed whether this should remain an Appendix to the Annual Report and agreed that it gave other interested parties opportunity to observe how the Committee had operated. We were reminded by WAO that the main purpose of the compliance document was to provide assurance to the Commissioner and CC that the Committee had operated effectively. Therefore, it may be more appropriate to expand the body of the Annual Report to include the audit reports considered during the year and incorporate the relevant wording from the Annual Governance Statement in support of the activity undertaken. We agreed that the Annual Report would be amended in this way and presented for final publication without the Appendices.

IO

We reviewed Appendix 3, ‘Self-Assessment of Good Practice’, which provided an analysis of Members’ responses to the Self-Assessment exercise. We noted that a draft Action Plan had been created as a result of the analysis. We discussed each of the points stated along with the suggested resolution as applicable and agreed to defer in-depth discussion of the ToR until the next formal review.

We discussed the remaining comments provided under the Self-Assessment. The CFO offered to share mind-map updates provided to the Commissioner regarding the work of the Committee with the Chair.

CFO

We agreed that Members’ comments on the Action Plan would be considered in terms of producing a formal document for the Committee. This would become a standing item on future meeting Agendas.

IO

The Chair thanked the IO for producing the report.

Action

WAO UPDATE REPORT

4. We received the Update Report from the WAO of which the following points were highlighted:

Planning and interim work had been completed in relation to the draft financial statements with no significant issues identified. The final audit visit had been planned for early July 2016.

We noted that the financial statements had been reviewed and signed by the Commissioner and the CFO and the CC and the ACOR on 9th June 2016, three weeks earlier than the 2014/15 draft financial statements.

We were advised that some of the areas of the draft financial statements presented at this meeting would change as further information became available throughout June. At 15th June 2016, it was understood that the main areas of the financial statements to be updated, prior to the commencement of the audit, were:

- Benefits in Kind information for Chief Officers in remuneration notes;
- Collaboration information;
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for revisions to Service Reporting Code of Practice (SerCOP) categories; and
- Segmental analysis note.

The WAO Audit of Financial Statements Report would be presented to the Commissioner, CC and the Committee at the September meeting.

We noted that the Auditor General for Wales' national report for the 'All Wales Local Government Improvement Study' relating to Community Safety Partnerships was still anticipated for publication in the summer of 2016. Local feedback to the Commissioner and CC would also be provided.

WAO would continue to consider the outcomes of audit work by both IA and HMIC in support of forming their Value for Money Conclusion.

We recognised the efforts of the Finance team in achieving faster closing of the draft financial statements. We noted the potential for an increase in adjustments to the information provided in the final statements as a result of the estimates required in the draft versions.

The Chair thanked the WAO for the report.

Action

PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS REVIEW 2015 (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY)

5. We received and noted the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) Review 2015 (Executive Summary) from IA.

We noted that this item had been added to the Agenda following discussion at the previous meeting.

We were advised that a review had been undertaken by an independent consultant for IA against the PSIAS that came into force from 1st April 2013. The review formed part of an on-going strategy to review the service independently against the professional standards that all National Health Service (NHS), Central Government, Local Government and related public sector Internal Audit services must comply with.

IA informed us that the review had been based on a facilitated Self-Assessment format, with each point reviewed against available evidence to confirm whether the feature was in place or not.

We noted that the report concluded that IA significantly conformed to the requirements of the PSIAS with one area related to 'Performance Management' that required improvement.

The Chair thanked IA for the report.

INTERNAL AUDIT SUMMARY PROGRESS REPORT 2015/16

6. We received the Summary Internal Audit Progress Report against the Annual Plan for 2015/16.

IA highlighted the number of audits completed since the last meeting and number of recommendations and observations around Operational Effectiveness Matters (OEM) made in each case.

We noted the following typographical error in the report:

IA

- Page 1, 3rd paragraph - 'Commissioner's Objectives – Victims' Hib' should be 'Hub'.

We reviewed the details contained in the Audit Plan 2015/16. IA advised that the audit for the Finance and Resources System Implementation had been deferred into 2016/17.

We noted that the Compliance Review for Local Policing East

had been included on the Agenda for formal consideration by the Committee. The Chair reminded us of the discussion of the report regarding the West arrangements at the last meeting and the visit to the Property Store in question as a result of the concerns highlighted in the report. We discussed the improved conditions in the Store and agreed that there was no need to revisit the report in detail.

Action

We were reminded that the number of days taken to complete audits had been impacted on as a result of IA being appointed during the year.

We noted the following typographical error in the Compliance Review report:

IA

- Page 10, paragraph 10.3 – the word ‘forearms’ should be amended to ‘firearms’.

The Chair thanked IA for the reports.

INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

7. We received the Annual Report for 2015/16 from IA.

We were informed that the report summarised the outcomes of the reviews carried out on the Commissioner’s and the CC’s framework of governance, risk management and control.

We discussed the report and noted that the Head of Audit’s Annual Opinion provided an overall ‘Reasonable Assurance’ rating based on the number of audits conducted during 2015/16. We were reminded that two of the audits that had received ‘Limited Assurance’ had been conducted at the request of Commissioner and CC. Therefore the assessment ratings in both cases had been anticipated by the Committee.

The Chair confirmed that the Annual Opinion would be included in the final versions of the Annual Governance Statement and the Committee’s Annual Report.

CFO/ACOR

IO

The Chair thanked IA for the report.

INTERNAL AUDIT SUMMARY INTERNAL CONTROLS ASSURANCE REPORT 2016/17

8. We received the Summary Internal Controls Assurance (SICA) Report for 2016/17 from IA.

We were advised that the report provided an update on the progress of IA’s work in the Force as at 17th June 2016. We noted that fieldwork had commenced on the 2016/17 reviews

and two reviews had been completed to date.

Action

We considered the progress against the Annual Plan for 2016/17 and noted that the review of Governance – Performance Management had been moved to Quarter 3 following the appointment of the new Commissioner. We discussed the audit of Force Corporate Communications and queried whether the departmental restructure had provided any issues in terms of public relations. The ACOR assured us that whilst the department had reduced in number, there had been no visible impact on external communications.

The Commissioner commended the high level of proactive and prolific communications work carried out by his office and confirmed that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) arrangements continued to work effectively.

The Chair thanked IA for the SICA Report and thanked IA and WAO for their attendance at the meeting.

The Chair requested that planning of future meeting dates should consider the Audit Committee arrangements for the other Commissioners and CCs to avoid any diary conflicts for WAO and IA.

CFO/IO

WAO and IA left the meeting at 11.30am.

MINUTES

9. We received and confirmed the minutes from the meeting held on the 9th March 2016 subject to the following amendments:

IO

- Pages 3 and 4, WAO Audit Plan 2016/17. We noted that this report was for 2016 only.
- Bullet point 4, item 15 Budget Setting 2016/17 (page 11) should read '£2million per annum'.

We discussed the production of the minutes and queried whether there was any formal approval by the Chair following agreement at the Committee. The CFO advised that draft minutes were provided to the Commissioner and the CC via the Strategy and Performance Board. Once agreed by the Committee at their subsequent meeting subject to any amendments required, the final minutes were formally published on the OPCC website.

The CFO advised that a working-draft of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) 'Telling the Story' review had been received and a copy would be circulated with the minutes.

CFO/IO

ACTIONS

Action

10. We received and noted the actions from the meeting held on the 9th March 2016. The following were highlighted:

Action 14, Actions, Budget Setting 2016/17 – Verbal Update

We noted that an explanation of the Capital programme had been due to take place at the June meeting. The ACOR advised that this would be incorporated in the deep dive following the meeting.

Action 17, Actions, Asset Management Strategy 2016/17

The ACOR advised that the reports would be circulated to Members for information and that the item would be added to future agendas. We confirmed that a single page summary of information would be sufficient in meeting the Committee's monitoring requirement.

ACOR/IO

The FA jointed the meeting at 11.45am.

FINANCE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2016

11. We received the Finance Report for the Year Ending 31st March 2016 from the ACOR.

We were informed that the report presented a summary of the latest position regarding the completion of the Revenue and Capital Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2016. The ACOR advised that the Revenue Account identified savings of £5,986,000 against budget at the year-end before transfers to general and earmarked reserves. As part of the on-going Staying Ahead Programme, the 2015/16 budget proposal included £6,027,000 (recurring) of planned in-year efficiency schemes against the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) target.

We considered the contents of the year-end report. The ACOR highlighted that Police Officer Salaries and Allowances had shown savings against budget of £1,583,000, net of the release of 65 officers under the Voluntary Exit Scheme at an accumulated cost of £2,581,000. The Actual police officer establishment stood at 1,124.50 whole time equivalents (wte), 81.50 wte below the authorised number of 1,206.00 wte.

We learned that Police Staff Salaries and Allowances showed an overspend of £197,000 which reflected savings due to current establishment numbers, offset by redundancy costs of £560,000 combined with pension capital costs of £438,000. Police Officer Overtime and Enhancements had overspent by £175,000. Savings of £153,000 had been made regarding bank holiday enhancements; however, there had been an overspend

of £329,000 on normal overtime which continued to be monitored. We were informed that Police Staff and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Overtime and Enhancements showed a combined overspending of £34,000 and Other Employee Related Costs showed an overspend of £802,000 to the end of the year.

The ACOR advised that savings across Supplies and Services and Additional Other Income had been partly offset by overspends in related areas. The final forecast outturn prepared at the end of February 2016 had anticipated savings of £3,646,000 with an interim position of £5,986,000.

We noted that the OPCC had incurred expenditure of £2,810,000, and that there had been a number of pre-approved reserve movements totalling £2,291,654 as well as the proposed transfer to the General Reserve of the remaining savings of £5,112,264.

We were informed that the Capital Programme Revised Annual Budget on proposed schemes for 2015/16 was £4,944,000. The year-end position showed savings of £2,452,000 with some Capital Programme Schemes incomplete by the end of the year. Their delivery had been rolled into 2016/17.

The ACOR confirmed that the Final Year-End Statement of Accounts (subject to Audit) had been authorised by both the CFO and the ACOR on 6th June 2016.

We discussed the report and the CFO drew attention to the capacity and capability of the Finance Department to produce timely accounting information. We noted the potential impact on the department with regards to the earlier closing of the accounts and the use of agency staff. The ACOR assured us that robust arrangements would be in place to minimise any future impacts with regards to finance processes. The CC confirmed that this would be further discussed with the ACOR.

We acknowledged the success to date in achieving the savings stated in the report and queried how much of the reported value was sustainable. The CFO advised that some of the staff-related savings were recurrent but that other areas, for example the fuel budget, were subject to external factors and therefore expected to change. We suggested that the wording related to the Capital Programme year-end savings (paragraph 3.36 of the report) would benefit from clearer phrasing to identify whether this was an actual saving or a postponed spend.

The Chair thanked the ACOR for the report.

12. We received the draft Statement of Accounts from the CFO. We noted that the both the Commissioner Group Statement of Accounts and the CC Statement of Accounts were provided for consideration together due to the similarities across the documents.

The CFO advised that the draft Accounts were presented for consideration prior to being finalised for sign-off in September 2016. We were reminded that, the go-live for the faster closing of the accounts would be August 2019.

We were informed that the Statements of Accounts, which incorporated the Annual Governance Statements, provided the current positions of each Corporation Sole, as well as the financial performance for the previous year and performance metrics for the next financial year.

The CFO explained that the documents had been prepared by the FA, who would provide further explanation of the Financial Statements contained within the reports. The Chair welcomed the FA to the meeting.

The FA highlighted the following information:

- Total useable reserves as at 31st March 2016: £49.589m;
- Total Group reserves as at 31st March 2016: £(1,116,085m);
- Cash and cash equivalents at the end of 2015/16: £15.141m;
- Police Pension Fund Account additional contribution from the Commissioner (31st March 2016): £16.126m;
- Police Pension Fund Account Overdrawn Pension Cash Position (31st March 2016): £9.625m.

The Commissioner queried whether the final reports to be presented in September would differ from the drafts. The CFO advised that some changes may be required as a result of factors such as audit reports and the International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 260 update due before September 2016; therefore the presentation would focus on these by way of an exception report.

We commented on the 'people' aspect of the reports and whether there was any link to risk relating to costs incurred for health and safety matters or injury compensation/claims received during the year.

We noted that the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) was included within the Statement of Accounts and the Committees

requirement to recommend for approval. The CFO explained that the AGS provided information on how the Six Core Principles of Corporate Governance had been met and contained narrative on the related activities undertaken during the year. The AGS also indicated the future plans for 2016/17 and provided consideration of any significant governance issues faced by the Commissioner and the CC and the plans to address them. We discussed the AGS and queried the reference to the 'findings of the review of the system of internal controls' on page 9. The CFO informed us that the AGS provided the review in terms of assessing compliance and reviewing activity.

We recommended the AGS for approval and noted, on page 10, a reference to the Committee being responsible for 'providing an independent assurance function'. The CFO advised that this occurred by default due to the activity of the Committee and that the phrase had been taken directly from the ToR.

We discussed the production of the Statements of Accounts and noted that this was a resource-intensive exercise. We agreed that there may be value in considering the way the documents were presented in the future with regards to their public appeal.

The Chair thanked the CFO and the FA for the reports.

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS UPDATE

13. We reviewed the Medium Term Financial Projections (MTFP) from the CFO which projected to 2021/22. We noted that the Commissioner had presented the initial MTFP for 2017/18 to 2021/22 to the Police and Crime Panel on 17th June 2016.

We were reminded that the 2016/17 budget setting round was unprecedented, in that the planning assumptions used in the build-up to its compilation (based on the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) 2015 intentions and professional judgement (national, regional and local)) had been significantly altered in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement on the 25th November 2015.

The CFO advised that, in the light of funding uncertainties coupled with the continuing need to deliver efficiency savings well beyond the £42,069,000 delivered to date, the latest MTFP reflected three different scenarios, namely:

- a) Pessimistic - the projected recurring deficit before efficiencies showed £26,153,000 by 2021/22. However, following the application of currently identified efficiency schemes and budget reductions, the projected recurring

deficit after efficiencies showed £13,123,000.

Action

- b) Probable - the projected recurring deficit before efficiencies showed £21,563,000 by 2021/22. However, following the application of currently identified efficiency schemes and budget reductions, the projected recurring deficit after efficiencies showed £6,233,000.
- c) Optimistic - the projected recurring deficit before efficiencies showed £15,915,000 by 2021/22. However, following the application of currently identified efficiency schemes and budget reductions, the projected recurring deficit after efficiencies showed £585,000.

The Commissioner commented that the report illustrated the extent of the challenges faced in Gwent and the issue that an increased precept would only maintain the current situation. We assured the Commissioner that all actions taken to date in this regard had been endorsed by the Committee.

We discussed the report and the implications of the recent EU Referendum (and subsequent 'Brexit') as well as any further review of the funding formula. Members expressed concern at the uncertainty of the future of policing as a result of Brexit.

The Chair thanked the CFO for the MTFP update.

The Committee took a short lunch break until 13.30pm

Due to time constraints, the Chair suggested the meeting continue until 2pm, whereupon the deep dive would take place.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY YEAR-END ACTIVITY REPORT 2015-16

- 14. We received and noted the end of year report on the Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) 2015/16 and the actual Prudential Indicators.

The CFO informed us that the Committee had sight of the report for consideration and comment prior to its approval by the Commissioner. We were advised that new members would be provided with a separate briefing session on the TMS as part of their induction.

CFO

We noted that one of the prudential indicators had not been met as gross debt was shown to be above the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) for the year. This had been due to a new requirement to exclude investments to reduce gross debt below the CFR. In addition, the CFR had been significantly reduced through the application of a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP)

in-year. The CFO stated that due to the Commissioner's investments being significantly above his borrowing position, the failure to meet this prudential indicator was of no cause for concern.

Action

We discussed the report and queried what discretion was afforded to move from a low to a higher risk regarding treasury management. The CFO advised that was within the remit of his role, as long as no significant risk was perceived around security of investments and that the Committee would be given opportunity to comment on the Strategy in December 2016. We agreed to discuss this issue of risk at the December meeting.

COMMISSIONING UPDATE

15. We received an update on Commissioning from the CFO.

We noted the briefing report provided and the elements of the Commissioning Strategy outlined. The CFO advised that in November 2015, the Commissioning Strategy had been reviewed to ensure it remained fit-for-purpose. As a result, the strategy had been revised to include Mental Health, Cyber Crime, Child Sexual Exploitation, Counter Terrorism, Serious Organised Crime, Modern Day Slavery and Drug Trafficking. The force Delivery Plan had also been considered in view of public feedback and amended to reflect this.

We were informed that, as the Commissioning Strategy was linked to the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, further review would be needed to ensure delivery against any new Priorities set. The composition, role and remit of the Strategic Commissioning Board would also need to be reviewed to ensure it remained relevant during the Commissioner's tenure. The OPCC would continue to identify emerging themes to define the funding landscape in support of the commissioning work to be undertaken.

We discussed the update and suggested that, as the Commissioning work largely related to people, more emphasis should be placed on the 'human' elements of the activity, highlighting the positive difference made to individuals. The CFO agreed to provide some of the 'good news' stories resulting from the Partnership Fund to the next meeting.

CFO

We queried the security of the funding provided to Connect Gwent. The CFO advised that the Ministry of Justice funding was an annually-assessed grant. However, many of the victim service organisations involved in Connect Gwent match-funded any monies received from the Commissioner. As such, there was an aspiration to build a sustainable service through combined funding.

The Chair thanked the CFO for the update.

OUTSTANDING AUDIT INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

16. We received a report that scheduled outstanding recommendations from previous audit reports and the current status of the work necessary to implement the required actions. Due to time constraints, the Members agreed to discuss section 1 of the report only by way of exception.

Wales Interpretation and Translation Services 2014/15 Page 1, R01 Clarity over Responsibilities, Liabilities and Insurance

We noted the current status and the revised completion date of October 2016. We agreed to the extension as this reflected the proposed handover date to Cardiff City Council.

Data Protection – Information Asset Ownership 2014/15 – May 2015

Page 4, R03 Policies and Procedures for Information Asset Management

We noted the current status and agreed the revised completion date of 31st August 2016.

We noted an error on page 13 of the report against entry R01 for Sustainable IT (Replacement Planning) 2014/15, whereby the 'Original' and 'Current' plan dates had been entered into the wrong columns.

ACOR

The ACOR drew attention to page 25 of the report, and highlighted R01 Counter Fraud – Procurement Arrangements 2014/15. We were advised that the values stated related to Procurement Card expenditure that had occurred outside the authorised process. The ACOR assured us that the issue had been addressed and that more detailed feedback would be provided to the Committee.

ACOR

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

17. We received and noted a report on the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

The ACOR confirmed that the KPIs were last reported to the Committee in December 2015 and was subject to change as required. We were informed that the report highlighted a number of issues, including purchasing card compliance, the number of days taken to pay Creditors, Debtor analysis and write-offs performed during the reporting period.

We discussed the report and noted an inaccuracy at 3.4.3 of the

report that stated that there had been '£5,500 of fraudulent expenditure by a cardholder which resulted in the dismissal of an employee'. The ACOR advised that the expenditure was inappropriate rather than fraudulent and that the report would be amended to accurately reflect the circumstances surrounding the individual. We agreed that the report showed that Gwent was in a healthy position in terms of financial performance. We suggested that it would be helpful if the overall audit opinion was included in future reports.

Action

ACOR

ACOR

The Chair thanked the ACOR for the report.

The Chair paused the meeting at 2.00pm to enable the 'Staying Ahead' deep dive to take place. The meeting resumed at 3.00pm.

OPCC GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY/BUSINESS INTERESTS REPORT

18. We received the Gifts and Hospitality/Business Interests report from the CFO.

We considered the contents of the report and the updates provided in each respect. We commented that the ceiling limit for gifts and hospitality appeared to be very low and queried whether this could be raised. We also commented that the registers may not be required as the report provided adequate assurance of the processes in place. We agreed that there was value in publishing the registers, particularly in respect of reducing the number of Freedom of Information requests on this subject. In terms of the limit for gifts and hospitality, the ACOR advised that this practice supported open and transparent behaviour and encouraged behavioural integrity. In these instances, we agreed to retain the registers as appendices to future reports.

GWENT POLICE GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY REPORT AND REVIEW

19. We received and noted the Gifts and Hospitality report for the force.

The ACOR advised that the same regulations applied to the force as to the OPCC and that the majority of gifts consistently fell into the categories of low value consumable goods.

We considered the registers provided with the report and that no risks had been identified as a result of officers and staff accepting the declared gifts and hospitalities.

The Chair thanked the CFO and the ACOR for the reports.

GWENT POLICE BUSINESS INTERESTS REVIEW

20. We received and considered the Business Interests and Secondary Employment Review from the ACOR.

We were informed that the current process required personnel to make a written request for approval to their supervisor who would comment on any impact this would have on their role within the force. The ACOR confirmed that no conflict of interest had been noted with regards to the contents of the report.

We commented that a number of entries on the register provided positive involvement with local communities which was welcomed by Members.

OPCC ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY

21. We received the updated Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy from the CFO as per the Policies and Procedures frequency review schedule.

We noted that the policy had been updated to reflect staffing changes within the OPCC and that these amendments had been approved by the former Commissioner.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

22. The information contained in the report(s) below has been subjected to the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Data Protection Act 1998 and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent's public interest test and is deemed to be exempt from publication under sections 4 and 7.

TO MONITOR THE JOINT STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

23. We received and monitored the Joint Strategic Risk Register.

We noted that the Business Tasking and Co-ordination Group (BTCG) Risk Report for June 2016 had been provided in addition to the Register.

The ACOR agreed that an update would be provided to the next meeting regarding any emerging information on risks to policing associated with 'Brexit'.

ACOR/HoSD

We agreed that the BTCG report provided more information on mitigation of risk and would therefore replace the current Risk Register item at future meetings.

ACOR/IO

TO MONITOR THE OPCC RISK REGISTER

Action

24. We received and monitored the OPCC Risk Register.

We noted that the entry on the Welsh Language would be updated following the close of the Standards Consultation.

CoS

ANY RELEVANT REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS THAT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE

25. We noted that the 'Telling the Story' report would be provided to Members once available.

CFO/IO

We also noted that the WAO report on Community Safety activity would be provided to the Committee once available.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

26. We discussed the annual All-Wales Joint Audit Committee training planned for October 2016 and noted that it was Gwent's turn to host the seminar. Members agreed to send any items for consideration as part of a training agenda to the Information Officer.

Members/IO

TO IDENTIFY ANY RISKS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

27. We noted the potential risk created via 'Brexit' in terms of finance, policing and security, and the current level of political uncertainty in the UK.

We noted the consideration in planning meeting dates for 2017.

The meeting concluded at 3.10pm.