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## Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable for Gwent Police

### Joint Audit Committee 27 July 2023 – Audit Update Paper

#### 2022-23 financial statements

- **Audit Planning**

We commenced our detailed planning work in July and have issued our Detailed Audit Plan 2023, which has been agreed with management. Our planning work is continuous, and should we identify any further audit risks and areas of audit focus, we will update Joint Audit Committee members at the next meeting.

We have set out our planned timetable for our audit work in our Detailed Audit Plan 2023, and plan to start our audit of the financial statements in September.

Throughout our audit planning work, both the audit team and the Finance Team have used Inflo Collaborate (Inflo) to raise audit queries and share documents, and this has worked well.

- **Audit of the financial statements 2022-23**

On 29 June, the Finance Team uploaded the draft Financial Statements onto Inflo along with supporting working papers in readiness for our September start date.

### Other matters for consideration

#### Audit Wales publications

Our publications can be accessed via <https://www.audit.wales/publications>.

#### Forward work programme

Having a strategic, dynamic and high quality audit programme is a key focus of the Audit Wales strategy.

This forward work programme of performance audit work is shaped by stakeholder engagement activity and our Picture of Public Services analysis. It sits alongside our annual audit of accounts at over 800 public bodies in Wales.

It is focussed on four themes:

- tackling inequality

- responding to the climate and nature emergency
- service resilience and access
- well managed public services

Work in progress as at 1 April 2023 includes:

- **Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs)**  
Whether CJCs are making good progress in developing their arrangements to meet their statutory obligations and the Welsh Government's aim of strengthening regional collaboration.
- **Managing assets and workforce in local government**  
How councils' strategic approaches to workforce and asset management are supporting their ability to transform, adapt, and maintain service delivery in the short and longer term.
- **Maximising EU funding**  
Progress in maximising drawdown of EU funds under the Structural Funds Programme and Rural Development Programme by the end of December 2023.
- **Net zero (pan-UK overview)**  
An overview of policy and delivery arrangements across different parts of the UK, and in partnership with other UK audit bodies.
- **Ukrainian refugee services**  
How the Welsh Government, working with its partners, has responded to support Ukrainian refugees in Wales.
- **Digital strategy in local government**  
Councils' strategic approach to digital, including application of the sustainable development principle and arrangements for securing value-for-money.
- **Use of performance information in local government**  
Whether councils' use of performance data enables senior leaders to understand the service-user perspective and the outcomes of their activities to effectively manage performance.
- **Active travel**  
Delivery of Welsh Government objectives and how associated funding is being managed and deployed.

## Good Practice Exchange (GPX)

We continue to seek opportunities for finding and sharing good practice from all-Wales audit work through our forward planning, programme design and good practice research.

Details of future events are available on the GPX website <https://www.audit.wales/our-work/good-practice> .

Tracy Veale - Audit Manager

19 July 2023