

OFFICE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

TITLE: Joint Audit Committee Draft Annual Report, Terms of Reference
Compliance and Self-Assessment Findings 2021/22

DATE: 9th June 2022

TIMING: Annual

PURPOSE: For Consideration and Comment

1.	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u> That the Joint Audit Committee (JAC): a) Consider and comment on their 2021/22 Annual Report; b) Consider their compliance with their Terms of Reference; and c) Comment on and approve their Self-Assessment Action Plan for the coming year.
2.	<u>INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND</u> During 2014/15, in line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountability (CIPFA) best practice, members of the JAC agreed that they would produce an Annual Report to provide the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent (Commissioner) and the Chief Constable of Gwent with an overview of their activity for the previous financial year. The Annual Report also sets their priorities for the coming year.
3.	<u>ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION</u> Appendix 1 – Draft Annual Report The draft report contains details of the activity undertaken by the JAC during 2021/22 and their priorities for 2022/23. The report is still in draft format and will be finalised after the June 2022 meeting. The areas still to be updated are included in italics within the report. The report is supplemented by the following appendices. Appendix 2 – Evidence of Compliance with Terms of Reference (ToR) The table is based on the ToR, taking each theme and detailing the dates of meetings and the subject matters of the reports considered within each theme. Certain subject areas were considered outside of the meeting structure (for example at ‘deep dives’). Where this occurred the ‘Other Methods’ column of the table has been completed stating how compliance with this subject area of the ToR was achieved. Any additional information deemed useful has been included in the ‘Comments’ column of the document. Appendix 3 – JAC Self-Assessment of Good Practice This document comprises two parts: appendix 3.1 reflects the responses provided to the Self-Assessment Questionnaire, and appendix 3.2 contains the Self-Assessment Action Plan with proposed recommendations for

	improvement. Once the comments have been discussed and agreement has been reached as to which actions will be taken forward, a finalised action plan will be produced.
4.	<u>NEXT STEPS</u> Once the content of the report and appendices have been approved by the JAC members, subject to the incorporation of any comments made, the report will be amended for final presentation at the meeting in July 2022. The report will then be provided to the Commissioner and the Chief Constable in order to evidence the activity undertaken by the JAC during 2021/22 and will also be published on the OPCC's website.
5.	<u>FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS</u> During 2021/22, the total cost incurred for the JAC was £6,850.30 ¹ . This is based on the expenses claimed by members, daily and half daily rates (£211.50 for over 4 hours and £104.50 for up to 4 hours) and also the fixed payment of £104.50 (equivalent to the half-day payment rate) provided for preparation time.
6.	<u>PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS</u> Personnel considerations are indicated within the attached report.
7.	<u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</u> There are no legal implications as a result of this report.
8.	<u>EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS</u> This report has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group. Consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998 in preparing this report.
9.	<u>RISK</u> There are no risks arising as a result of this report.
10.	<u>PUBLIC INTEREST</u> This report can be made available to the public.
11.	<u>CONTACT OFFICER</u> Joanne Regan, Head of Assurance and Compliance

¹ Some payments for the March 2021 meeting are also included in this total as due to receipt of the claims and the time taken for processing, they would not have been paid until April 2021

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ANNEXES

Appendix 1 - Draft JAC Annual Report.

Appendix 2 – Evidence of JAC Compliance with ToRs.

Appendix 3.1 – JAC Self-Assessment of Good Practice Questionnaire and Responses.

Appendix 3.2 – JAC Self-Assessment of Good Practice Action Plan.