

Agenda Item 3



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

REPORT TO: JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE

DATE: 15 JUNE 2015

REPORT AUTHOR: STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE OFFICER

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

Appendices A and B refer

1 Issue for Consideration

1.1 The Joint Audit Committee's (JAC) Membership and revised Terms of Reference and Forward Plan.

2 Recommendation

2.1 The Committee is asked to

- note the membership of the JAC;
- consider the revised Terms of Reference and recommend that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Chief Constable (CC) to approve the Terms of Reference subject to any amendments that may be highlighted through discussions at this meeting;
- note the forward plan.

3 Background

3.1 Membership of the JAC from the 1 April 2015 is as set out below (Chaired by Mr Clive Portman):

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JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE (JAC)
<p style="text-align: center;">Mr S Dobson Mr D Jones Mrs K Sanderson Mr R Weaver</p>

- 3.2 The Terms of Reference of the JAC were agreed by the Committee in June 2014. The Committee has since undertaken a review of the Terms of Reference which are presented to the Committee at Appendix A for discussion / amendment.
- 3.3 The arrangements set out in the revised Terms of Reference meet the requirements of the Police and Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSRA), Home Office Financial Management Code of Practice (FMCoP) and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Audit Committee Guidance.

4 Forward Plan

- 4.1 Members are invited to review the forward plan as presented at Appendix B. The Forward Plan will be reviewed annually.

5 Subject

- 5.1 The JAC plays a key part in assuring all stakeholders that probity, regularity and value for money are obtained in the use of public money by both the PCC and CC in the pursuance of the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan.
- 5.2 The revised Terms of Reference attached provide a framework within which the JAC can operate and meet the statutory requirements of the PRSRA and the FMCoP. In doing so, the PCC and CC will be demonstrating to all stakeholders that they take their governance and risk management responsibilities seriously.

6 Implications

Financial:	Resource requirements to enable development and implementation of the above can be found from existing budgets.
Legal:	Approval of the attached revised Terms of Reference will ensure statutory compliance with the PRSRA and the FMCoP.
Equality Impact Assessment:	None
Risks and Impact:	Without an effective JAC, neither the PCC nor the CC will be able to publically demonstrate that they have established a suitably robust risk control framework. Consequently, neither will be able to produce a fair and representative Annual Governance Statement that has been subject to sufficient independent challenge and review for the purposes of ensuring its integrity. This could expose both the PCC and CC to the risk of external

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	audit qualification as well as public criticism.
Link to Police and Crime Plan:	The JAC provide a mechanism through which assurance can be sought and the public assured with regards to the probity, regularity and value for money of resources deployed in the pursuit of the Police and Crime Plan.

7 List of attachments / appendices

- Appendix A: Terms of Reference
- Appendix B: Forward Plan

8 Background Papers

- None

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