

**Report of the Chief Executive to the Chair and Members
Of the Audit & Internal Control Panel
20th January 2010**

Executive & Presenting Officer: Joe McCarthy, Chief Executive.

Status: For Information

Progress Report on Annual Audit Letter Recommendations

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To inform members of the progress made to date in implementing the agreed actions in the Annual Audit letter relating to the 2008/2009 audit.

2. Recommendations

That Members

- 2.1 Agree to note the progress to date against the recommendations in the Annual Audit Letter of November 2009.

3. Reasons

- 3.1 The Audit Commission presented the Annual Audit Letter flowing from the 2008/2009 audit to the Police Authority Executive on 10th December 2009. It contained an action plan agreed with your officers.
- 3.2 Relevant parts of the action plan are set out in Appendix A to this report. The text in italics contains information relating to progress made to date. There are no matters that need to be brought to the Panel's attention at this point in time.

4. Implications

- 4.1 Financial Implications

Implementation of these recommendations is utilising existing financial and human resources.

4.2 Diversity and Equal Opportunities

There are no diversity and equal opportunities implications in this report.

4.3 Human Rights

There are no human rights implications in this report.

4.4 Sustainability

There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

4.5 Risk

Failure to implement agreed recommendations will be reflected in future Audit Commission reviews of the Authority's arrangements. Hence to mitigate this, officers report on progress.

5. Conclusions

5.1 This report is part of an ongoing process to improve governance, efficiency and effectiveness.

Joe McCarthy
Chief Executive

Annual Audit Letter November 2009 – Progress in italics against agreed Action Plan.

Recommendation	Priority 1 = Low 2 = Med 3 = High	Responsibility	Comments	Agreed Date
R1 Introduce a systematic review of costs to identify high cost areas and prepare plans to maximise efficiencies.	3	ACO (F&C) Head of Corporate Planning and Governance	Included in CPA business plan <i>Progress</i> <i>Report on Value for Money profiles, including comparative data to be presented to P&R Panel of 27th January 2010.</i>	September 2010
R2 Strengthen partnership monitoring arrangements to ensure the Authority understand the resources available from significant partners.	3	Chief Executive CPA Strategy Manager	Included in CPA business plan. <i>Progress</i> <i>P&R Panel to consider the draft CPA Partnership Strategy and Code at its meeting on the 27th January 2010. To become effective from 1st April 2010</i>	April 2010
R3 Continue to strengthen the approach to procurement and commissioning of services to ensure there is a strategic approach and a systematic review of services to maximise value for money.	3	Chief Executive ACO (F&C) DCC	This will be undertaken with the context of the progress of Project I. <i>Progress</i> <i>Report on Project I to be considered at a special meeting of the Police Authority Executive on 20th January 2010.</i>	Ongoing
R4 Introduce data quality checking of information received from partners, which is used to inform decisions at District level.	2	BCU commanders	Requisite data quality checking will form part of the agreed Information Sharing Protocols (ISP) which are presently being promoted with CDRPs by GONE. <i>Progress – none completed as of this date.</i>	As ISP are implemented
Introduce regular ethical standards training for non	2	Head of People and Diversity	Training is to be provided to Heads of Service on the Disciplinary Code and the Code of Conduct, and this will encompass ethical standards	December 2010

Annual Audit Letter November 2009 – Progress in italics against agreed Action Plan.

Recommendation	Priority 1 = Low 2 = Med 3 = High	Responsibility	Comments	Agreed Date
uniformed senior officers and members		Deputy Chief Executive	<p><i>Progress</i> <i>Above training still in planning stage.</i></p> <p>To be included in the annual CPA Member Training Programme.</p> <p><i>Progress (COMPLETED)</i> <i>The Deputy Chief Executive has confirmed that this now features in the Annual CPA Member Training programme.</i></p>	December 2009
Strengthen partnership monitoring arrangements to ensure the Authority can demonstrate the effectiveness of significant partnerships.	3	Chief Executive CPA Strategy Manager	<p>Included in the CPA business plan.</p> <p><i>Progress</i> <i>P&R Panel to consider the draft CPA Partnership Strategy and Code at its meeting on the 27th January 2010. To become effective from 1st April 2010</i></p>	April 2010
Continue to develop workforce planning arrangements to ensure there is an appropriate number and mix of officers and police support staff based on a systematic review of future needs and financial constraints.	3	DCC Head of People and Diversity	<p>Commitment to specific numbers of Police Officers and PCSO is to be sustained until 2010/11. Public finances thereafter represent a significant challenge and workforce planning will necessarily take this into account.</p> <p><i>Progress</i> <i>Report on the potential impact of the state of national finances on Formula Funding to be considered at a special meeting of the Police Authority Executive on 20th January 2010.</i></p>	December 2010