



JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

1. INTRODUCTION

The Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC) was established in November 2012 and membership has remained consistent since its establishment.

Members of the Audit Committee are Trevor Lake, Richard Baldwin and Ann Liston, former Independent members of West Yorkshire Police Authority, and Harry Bower, a former member of the Standards Committee.

2. COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES AND KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The statement of purpose and terms of reference for the committee is based upon guidance set out in "Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities" published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

The role of the committee is not one of scrutiny or holding to account, but rather of providing appropriate assurance to the PCC and the Chief Constable on the adequacy of their governance, internal control and risk management arrangements.

The report at **Appendix A** is the annual report from the Chair of the JIAC which sets out how the Committee has fulfilled its responsibilities.

3. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The Committee meets formally on a quarterly basis and also meets informally in workshop sessions. In addition the Chair of the Committee has attended a meeting with the PCC and Chief Constable, Freedom of Information Act appeals meetings, partnership executive group, and regularly attends the force Risk Management Group and the OPCC Good Governance Group.

The Committee meets in private with the internal and external auditors as recommended in CIPFA guidance, and an update is provided on issues relevant to the Committee's terms of reference by the Chief Finance Officers of the PCC and Chief Constable at every meeting.

4. CONCLUSION

The Committee has considered a broad range of issues within its agreed terms of reference throughout the year and where appropriate has called for additional information or for actions to be taken. It has met with the PCC and the Chief Constable to provide feedback and assurance.

The Committee has satisfied itself as to its own effectiveness and has identified areas for development.