

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY



Meeting **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Date **TUESDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2009 –10.00 A.M.**

Report of **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Subject **POLICE AUTHORITY INSPECTIONS**

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides an update on progress towards the Police Authority Inspections.

Commentary

2. Members received a report on the Inspection Framework to its meeting on 13 November 2008. The matter was also discussed by the wider membership at the Members Discussion Day on 27 November 2008.
3. A copy of the timetable for introduction of the inspection regime appears at APPENDIX 1 to this report. Members will recall that the assessment criteria is still being developed but the draft criteria features six headings, the first three of which replicate the requirements that have previously featured in PURE (Police Use of Resources Evaluation). The final three criteria relate to leadership, performance monitoring and achievements through partnership. The draft criteria are found at APPENDIX 2.
4. At their Discussion Day on 27 November 2008 Members considered what steps they might take in advance of any inspection. An action plan, briefly summarising the main aspects, is found at APPENDIX 3 to this report.
5. Members are reminded that this committee has the role of overseeing that the preparations for the inspection are on course. Particular steps within the action plan may fall to different committees, members and officers.

Recommendation

6. Members' comments are requested on the action plan at APPENDIX 3.

Implications

Financial: none at present. Legal: none. Diversity: none. Risk Management: none.

Background Papers

None.

Officers to Contact

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DRAFT Assessment Criteria for Police Authority Inspections

As at 12 November 2008

Key Line of Enquiry	Police Authority Focus
<p>1. Managing Finances: how effectively the organisation manages its finances to deliver value for money. 1.1 Financial planning and financial health 1.2 Understanding costs and performance 1.3 Financial monitoring and reporting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority ensures medium term financial plan is linked to strategic objectives – there is a credible and achievable medium time financial plan which the Authority had an effective role in developing. • Authority has the requisite financial skills and is able to manage spend within available resources. • Authority has a sound understanding of costs and comparative information using this effectively to deliver value for money. • Authority identifies scope for making efficiencies and is on track to achieve them.
<p>2. Governing the Business: how well the organisation governs itself and commissions services that provide value for money and better outcomes for local people 2.1 Commissioning and procurement. 2.2 Data quality and information use. 2.3 Good governance and ethical behaviour. 2.4 Risk management and internal control.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority evaluates a range of options for service delivery including partnerships and collaboration. • Authority ensures accurate and reliable data is used in decision making. • Authority has effective risk management. • Authority maintains focus on its purpose and vision and demonstrates a strong ethical framework.
<p>3. Managing Resources: how well the organisation manages its natural resources, physical assets and workforce 3.1 Natural resources. (Tested in 2009/10) 3.2 Asset management.(Tested in 2010/11) 3.3 Workforce planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority ensures that there is a productive and skilled chief officer team. • Authority oversees a workforce fit to deliver its strategic objectives.
<p>4. Leadership: Does the police authority working with the Force have the leadership, capacity and capability needed to promote service improvement and support the delivery of priorities?</p>	<p>See attached slides</p>
<p>5. Performance Monitoring: How effective is the police authority in ensuring the Force deliver the priority services, outcomes and improvements that are important to local people?</p>	<p>See attached slides</p>
<p>6. Achievements through partnership: How effective is the police authority in ensuring the Force delivers the priority services, outcomes and improvements that are important to local people?</p>	<p>See attached slides</p>

APPENDIX 3

Number	Item	Action
1	Pursue work under PURE to cover the first four groups of key lines of enquiry.	Work streams allocated to individual officers to pursue. Detailed analysis of work required is being undertaken.
2	Consider ways to ensure greater capacity to respond to changing circumstances and challenges.	Chief Executive has discussed some initial thoughts with Chairman of Audit Committee 15 January 2009. Meeting of officers with Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Authority and with Chairman of Audit Committee is set for 30 January.
3	Ensure efficient use of Members' skills and expertise. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improve existing training programme- Ensure regular skills audit undertaken- Bolster existing performance review process for members	Work in progress.
4	Review role of performance panel.	Work in progress. Chief Executive and Chair of Performance Panel have each discussed issue with new Deputy Chief Constable.
5	Sharpen involvement in statutory roles on partnership boards.	New Engagement and Communications Officer now in post and beginning to undertake mapping.
6	Prepare business plan.	Due for discussion with members at Member Discussion Days on 10 and 19 February 2009.