



## Resources Committee

Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 14 June 2023 via MS Teams

Board Members present:	Grant Macrae (Chair) Tom Halpin Alasdair Hay Caroline Stuart
Board Member apologies:	Nil
In attendance:	SPA Chris Brown, Deputy Chief Executive John MacLean, Workforce Governance Lead John McNellis, Head of Finance, Audit and Risk Deborah Christie, Governance Support Officer  Police Scotland Lynn Brown, Head of Corporate Finance Phil Collard, Head of Estates Paul Colley, Head of CFO Portfolio Shared Services James Gray, Chief Financial Officer Andrew Hendry, Chief Digital Information Officer Iain McKie, Head of Strategic Procurement Maria Price, Portfolio Manager  SPA Forensic Services Victoria Morton, Chief Operating Officer  HMICS Alan Wright

## 1.1 WELCOME

Grant Macrae, Committee Chair welcomed everyone to the MS Teams meeting.

## 1.2 APOLOGIES

No Member apologies were recorded.

## 1.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR CONNECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest or connections.

## 1.4 DECISIONS ON TAKING BUSINESS IN PRIVATE (ITEMS 4 - 10)

In accordance with paragraph 20 of the SPA Standing Orders, the Committee AGREED to consider items 4 - 10 on the agenda in private.

### 2.1 RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTE FROM MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2023 FOR APPROVAL

Members AGREED the Minute from the Resources Committee held on held on 9 March 2023 was an accurate record of the meeting.

### 2.2 RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTE FROM MEETING HELD ON 9 MAY 2023 FOR APPROVAL

Members AGREED the Minute from the Resources Committee held on held on 9 May 2023 was an accurate record of the meeting.

## 2.3 DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

No committee business was conducted between meetings.

**3.1 PROVISIONAL YEAR END OUTTURN 2022/23 – Lynn Brown**  
Members considered the paper which had been submitted to provide the Committee with an update on the financial outturn position of the SPA and Police Scotland for FY 2022/23. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were raised and discussed:

- Members considered a summary of the report and noted the Provisional Year End Out turn was still subject to external audit.
- Having been well sighted throughout the year, Members commended the work to deliver a balanced outturn versus budget.
- In response to a question, Members were assured that learning from 2022/23 would be considered going forward and work to embed priority-based budgeting will further develop existing budget management controls. One area of focus in which learning would

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be valuable is the management of overtime budgets and while improvements had been seen, more work was required to further improve.

- The Committee was keen to have improved oversight and assurance that budgets are being managed in year as projects develop and it was agreed by the Chief Financial Officer that a paper will be tabled to explore this at a future meeting.

### **Members noted the report and agreed the following action.**

RES-20230614-001: Report to be brought forward to provide this committee with assurances that, following approval, projects are being managed in year and that capital spend controls are resulting in month to month management of the budget to make informed decisions.

### **3.2 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD 1 2023/24 – Lynn Brown**

Members considered the paper which had been submitted to provide the Committee with an update on the financial position of the SPA and Police Scotland for period 1 of the financial year 2023/24. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were raised and discussed:

- Members considered a summary of the report and as it is not usual practice to bring forward a P1 Monitoring Report, it was explained the P1 report had been submitted to allow early committee scrutiny of the financial position given the challenging landscape. Members heard that given issues resulting from high inflation rates and assumptions for a 2023-24 pay award, there will be significant financial challenges for the organisation and these will require to be managed as part of the annual budget process.
- One area of specific focus is overtime and it was confirmed by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) that, whilst an over spend is currently forecast, steps are being taken to address this which will see a reduction in the coming months. Members asked if the local commanders were aware of the need to closely manage overtime budgets and were assured by the CFO this message had been cascaded and he was seeing evidence of changed behaviours which will go some way to getting the budget back on track in the coming months.

### **Members noted the report.**

### **3.3 TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRAMME BENEFITS TRACKING – YEAR END REPORT – Andrew Hendry**

Members considered the paper which had been submitted to provide the Committee with an update in relation to the ongoing Benefits

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Management and tracking within the Police Scotland Change Programme. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were raised and discussed:

- Members considered an overview of the report provided by the Chief Digital Information Officer (CDIO).
- Members recognised the significant challenge of reporting benefits across a wide range of transformation activity, however expressed concern that the current reporting does not give a comprehensive picture to enable robust oversight and assurance.
- The CDIO commented that the approach to reporting continues to develop and it was agreed there is a need to refresh the reporting to committee to ensure progress is clearer and to include better articulation of the impacts of investment decisions.
- Members requested clearer reporting and understanding of how the overall controls and decision making in respect of benefits are managed and evidence of the rigour around how this is managed globally for the organisation.
- The Committee asked that the reporting be developed so that it can be better assured that investment decisions provide best value for the public purse. Members were very keen to understand how the benefits tracking data will be reflected across future operational policing planning.
- Members welcomed the commitment from the DCIO to work with SPA colleagues and further improve benefits reporting.

### **Members noted the report.**

The following items were taken in private.

*End.*