



Resources Committee

Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 19 December 2023 via MS Teams

Authority Members present	Grant Macrae (Chair) Tom Halpin Alasdair Hay Caroline Stuart
Authority Member apologies	Nil
In attendance	SPA Chris Brown, Deputy Chief Executive John McNellis, Head of Finance, Audit and Risk Deborah Christie, Governance Support Officer Police Scotland Lynn Brown, Head of Corporate Finance Patrick Brown, Head of Finance Joe Carragher, Head of Applications and Development James Gray, Chief Financial Officer Andrew Hendry, Chief Digital Information Officer ACC Wendy Middleton Iain McKie, Head of Strategic Procurement SPA Forensics Fiona Douglas, Director of Forensic Services Scottish Government Beatriz Sanchez

	HMICS Alan Wright
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1.1 WELCOME

Grant Macrae, Committee Chair welcomed everyone to the MS Teams meeting. ACC Middleton was in attendance and would seek to provide operational insight during discussions should Members have specific questions. It was agreed these insights and explanations aid members of the Committee in their scrutiny and oversight of financial planning matters and Members look forward to representation from other senior operational colleagues at all future committee meetings.

1.2 APOLOGIES

No Member apologies were recorded. Apologies were noted from DCO David Page and DCC Jane Connors.

1.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTREST AND 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 15 NOVEMBER 2023 FOR APPROVAL

Members AGREED the Minute from the Resources Committee held on held on 15November 2023 was an accurate record of the meeting.

2.2 RESOURCES COMMITTEE ACTION LOG AND MATTERS ARISING

Members AGREED the Action Log and approved the closure of the one open action as proposed.

2.3 DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

No committee business was conducted between meetings.

3.1 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT P7 2023/24 – PATRICK BROWN

Members considered the report which sought to provide an update to the Committee on the financial position of the SPA and Police Scotland for period 7 of the financial year 2023/24. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were noted and discussed.

- The Committee discussed at length, the P7 Financial Monitoring Report which reported that mitigating actions and savings continue to be robustly managed and delivered.

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- While progress has been made, a significant risk remains in terms of delivery of the overall budget and this continues to be of concern for the Committee.
- As the appended report did not provide any additional information to what had been presented at the recent Authority meeting, Members sought clarity on the position in terms of the additional funding understood to have been requested from Scottish Government. It was explained that, as reported at the Authority meeting in November, the Accountable Officer has written to Scottish Government seeking £5m contingency funding to support a balanced budget position.
- Members sought and received an assurance that there was robust management of risks resulting from the decision not to commit any further capital in this financial year. The Head of Finance provided assurance the impacts would continue to be closely monitored by the organisation at the most senior level and of course, to this Committee.
- ACC Middleton was able to provide assurance that the budget monitoring activity was being approached organisationally with close partnership between finance and operational teams. Members welcomed the assurance there was close grip on the internal oversight as it was essential that solutions were both financial and operationally sustainable.

Members noted the report and appendix.

3. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – POST IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW – JOHN MCNELLIS

Members considered the report which provided details of a post implementation review of effectiveness of the financial regulations changes, one year after implementation. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were noted and discussed.

- Members considered a brief overview of the review and the key learnings were highlighted.
- Members commended the work which had resulted in added clarity on governance and approval levels and improved processes.
- The Committee was interested to hear that the SPA has shared details of this work with partners including the British Transport Police Authority and the City of London Police Authority.

Members noted the report.

*The following items were taken in private.
End.*

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