



Resources Committee

7 February 2023

Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 7 February 2023 via MS Teams

Board Members present:	Grant Macrae (Chair) Alasdair Hay Caroline Stuart (from item 6.1)
Board Member apologies:	Tom Halpin Catriona Stewart
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 James Gray, Chief Financial Officer Andrew Hendry, Chief Digital and Information Officer Alexis Hunter, Head of Leadership and Talent Yvonne Johnston, Estates Transformation and Portfolio Lead Iain McKie, Head of Strategic Procurement HMICS Alan Wright Scottish Government Avril Davidson

1.1 WELCOME

Grant Macrae welcomed everyone to the MS Teams meeting and advised attendees Caroline Stuart would join the meeting in due course.

1.2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded from Committee Members Tom Halpin and Catriona Stewart.

1.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR CONNECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest or connections.

1.4 DECISIONS ON TAKING BUSINESS IN PRIVATE (ITEMS 6 - 11)

In accordance with paragraph 20 of the SPA Standing Orders, the Committee AGREED to consider items 6 - 11 on the agenda in private.

2.1 RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTE FROM MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2022 FOR APPROVAL

Members AGREED the Minute from the Resources Committee held on held on 15 December 2022 was an accurate record of the meeting.

2.2 DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

No committee business was conducted between meetings.

3.1 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT Q3 2022/23 – James Gray/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 quarter three of the financial year 2022/23. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were raised and discussed;

- The Committee discussed at length, the year to date budget and forecast position which remains in line with the approved budget break even position.
- Assurance was sought and received that the financial position alongside any remaining threats and opportunities will continue to be very closely monitored in the coming weeks.
- Members reflected on the opportunity to take lessons learned from the first year of a new approach to managing capital spend across the year. The supply chain issues being faced by organisations globally were acknowledged as a significant challenge for the Force.

It was reported that a focus would remain on what can be done to further improve this area of budget management for next year.

Members noted the year to date position and forecast position within the finance report.

4.1 PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDERS REVIEW – Iain McKie

Members considered the report which invited the Committee to make a recommendation to the Authority to approve the proposed changes to the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts in the areas outlined in the report. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were raised and discussed;

- The Committee considered a brief summary of the proposed changes.
- Members heard the planned changes would support the continued improvement already seen across the procurement activity of the organisation.
- In response to a question regarding the next steps, it was confirmed that following approval, the refreshed Standing Orders will be published internally and externally alongside other key financial documents.

Members agreed to recommend to the Authority to approve the proposed changes to the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts as below;

- **Update to replace all EU References with relevant World Trade Organisation and Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) references.**
- **Administrative update to procurement thresholds in accordance with SPPN 8/2021 and inclusion of VAT in certain thresholds as required by GPA rules.**
- **Increase the threshold for adoption of Quick Quote as default procedure for works contracts from £150,000 excluding VAT to £500,000 excluding VAT.**
- **Update "Head of Procurement" to "Head of Strategic Procurement" to reflect changed job title.**

4.2 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY UPDATE – Iain McKie

Members considered the paper which had been submitted to advise the annual statutory review of the Procurement Strategy required under the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 has been carried out. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were raised and discussed;

- A summary was provided highlighting the key elements of the statutory annual review and the committee heard how work had been done to assess the performance against the original objectives.
- It was confirmed that no changes were believed to be required at this time. Positive external assurance, commissioned by Scottish Government's policy team, found the Police Scotland procurement strategy to be 'high quality, very detailed and with all the minimum content requirements being met' and this validation was welcomed by the Committee.
- A commitment was given by the Head of Strategic Procurement to bring forward a refreshed Procurement Strategy during the 2023/24 financial year. The next iteration will seek to strengthen and add value in a number of areas with a focus on always achieving best value.
- This will be shared with the committee at an appropriate time during development to ensure opportunity for Member feedback to be considered.

Members noted the review of the existing Procurement Strategy noted the timeline for the development of a new Procurement Strategy.

5. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME BENEFITS REPORT Q3 – Andrew Hendry

Members considered the report which sought to provide the Committee with an update in relation to the ongoing Benefits 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;

- The Committee considered an overview of the key areas of the report as contained in the Executive Summary and main body of the report.
- Recognising the improvements that have already been seen in the overall benefits reporting but recognising further improvements are required, Members welcomed confirmation that the new Benefits Realisation Framework would be presented to the Committee during the first quarter of 2023/24. This refreshed approach to the reporting was agreed as being of significant importance to the work of this committee in its work to seek to understand a richer picture of both planned benefits from change and benefit realisation.

Members noted the paper.

The following items were taken in private.

*Caroline Stuart joined the meeting.
End.*