



**Agenda Item 8**

**JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE  
26<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide members of the committee with oversight of the risk registers for the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner. The report also provides an update on developments in the organisational risk processes of the force.

**BACKGROUND**

**West Midlands Police - Risk Management**

- 2.1 Since the last committee, the forces corporate risk register has been reviewed.
- 2.2 A number of risks have been revised:
  - The police settlement risk has been replaced by an overarching risk in terms of WMPs funding position. Whilst the settlement is now known and the grant has increased for 20/21 to fund the increase in officer numbers, there remains a lack of clarity over precept funding flexibility and WMP remains the second lowest force overall. This also remains a risk as one year settlements do not assist with medium term financial planning.
  - The PEQF risk has been widened to include the Home Office recruitment uplift. Whilst both PEQF and the uplift present many opportunities for the force, there are also associated risks. The uplift targets, plus the PEQF entry routes create significant additional demand on WMP. The failure to meet recruitment targets will impact on the forces resilience and may potentially affect future funding from the Home Office.
  - An overarching risk around WMPs Workforce strategy has been developed to incorporate three existing risks; Specialist Recruitment & Retention, Detective Resilience and Workforce Resilience. This acknowledges the ongoing requirement to recruit and retain sufficiently skilled people.
  - The outstanding vulnerability risk has been revised to specifically address vulnerability in demand, particularly hidden crimes and missing people, key issues identified by HMICFRS and internal audits.

- Two outstanding Brexit risks (supply chain and intelligence sharing) have been merged into one Brexit risk following departure from the EU in December 2019. The UK will remain in a transition period throughout the year and the overarching risk will continue to be monitored through force governance processes.

2.3 One new risk has been added to the corporate risk register this quarter:

- COVID19 – impact of coronavirus on the force.

### **Police and Crime Commissioner – Risk Management**

2.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner’s risk management strategy is based on the delivery of the police and crime plan. The senior management team of the Commissioner’s Office reviewed the risk register in February and the current register is contained in the appendix to this report. The changes included in the February 2020 register are:-

- Resources for West Midlands are insufficient - this risk has increased due to the police funding settlement for 2020/21 being less than forecast in the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- Complaints and misconduct. The narrative in relation to this risk includes the appointment of a complaints manager in the OPCC which is a joint appointment with Warwickshire.
- Unauthorised encampments not being included in the top 12 risks due to the changes in the law and development of a regional protocol across councils. Also the support for the establishment of local authority transit sites.
- The inclusion of organised crimes and urban street gangs in the top 12 risks.

2.5 The risks and issues associated with COVID19 and the potential impacts will be included in future registers.

### **3 RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 The Committee to note the contents of the report and appendices.

<p><b>CONTACT OFFICER</b></p>
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<p>Name: Emma Smuts-Muller Title: Chief of Staff Name: Mark Kenyon Title: Chief Finance Officer</p>
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<p><b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b></p>
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<p>Risk Appendix 1 and 2</p>
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