

Report to: Audit & Corporate Governance Committee
Agenda item: Agenda Item 7
Date: Tuesday 8th September 2009
Subject: Governance Framework for Charging Model
Inputs/Outputs
Sponsor: Chief Executive & Clerk
For: Discussion

The Forum
5th Floor North
74-80 Camden Street
London NW1 0EG
T: 020 7383 0259
F: 020 7383 2655
www.btpa.police.uk

1. Background and Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the work that has been in relation to the charges disputes, the Project Team has concluded that it would be appropriate for the Authority to formalise the processes whereby the various charges are calculated and then sent to PSA holders under their Agreements.

2. The Proposal

- 2.1 Attached to this report is a proposed Governance Statement indicating various activities that are undertaken in relation to each category of charges, who should undertake that activity and who will verify and assure the work. Lying behind this overall Governance Statement will be a more detailed analysis of the various calculations, so that there is absolute clarity around who has done what, and who has given the assurance. This will be an internal working document.
- 2.2 Under the Delegation Scheme, I am delegated the following authorities:
 - “C15 – Levying charges for Police Services in accordance with Police Service Agreements and in conformity with policies and guidelines established by the Authority
 - C16 – to determine appropriate fees and charges for services provided to Police Services Users in accordance with the terms of the relevant Police Services Agreement and the policy of the Authority, and for services provided to other organisations and individuals, with a view to at least recovering the costs of such services.”.

- 2.3 The Committee will see that the proposal is that a Statement of the charges that have been assessed will be presented to the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee. The proposal is not to seek approval from Members to the final charges, but rely on the delegated authority which currently exists. The reason for this is that there is a requirement in the Police Service Agreements to issue a statement to PSA holders by the beginning of each financial year as to their contribution for the forthcoming year. In practice, there is a very short window between the Authority setting the budget, assessing the final charges and preparing the appropriate invoice letters. In practice, there are likely to be around 10 working days to undertake this, which would make seeking final Member approval to any figures difficult if not impossible. By adopting the Governance arrangements as proposed, the Committee may feel that they have sufficient assurance as to the robustness of the processes. Members will see the final figures, once they have been produced and notified to PSA holders.
- 2.4 The principles underlying this Governance Statement have been followed in all the work that has been undertaken over the last few months in assessing the implications of the Judicial Review decision.
- 2.5 Tribal have seen the proposed Statement and are content with it.

3. For Decision

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to agree the Governance Statement.