

Report to: Audit & Risk Assurance Committee
Agenda item: 4
Date: 18 September 2014
Subject: Authority Finance Issues - Quarterly Update
Sponsor: Authority Finance Director
For: Information

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1. Purpose of Paper

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Audit and Risk Committee of significant developments within the Authority Executive since the last Audit and Risk Committee meeting on 30 March 2014.

2. BTPA Statement of Accounts

- 2.1 The 2013/14 Accounts were laid before parliament on 19 June 2014.
- 2.2 Planning has now started for the 2014/15 audit. Paul Oliffe will continue to be the National Audit Office Director. Helen Jackson will be the audit manager and Daniel Greenwood will lead the audit team.

3. Police Service Agreements

- 3.1 Andrew Figgures wrote to the Police Service Agreement (“PSA”) holders on 11 September 2014 advising them of two proposed amendments to the PSA contracts.
- 3.2 The proposed amendments are to inform the PSA holders of their PSA charges earlier in the year and to calculate the Actual PSA charges using the best available and most recent information.
- 3.3 Patrick Butcher and Charles Horton of the RDGP&S also wrote to the PSA holders on 11 September 2014 stating that the members of the RDGP&S were supportive of these amendments.
- 3.4 Charlotte Vitty has written to the PSA holders with the contract amendments and we are now waiting for their responses.

- 3.5 At the next Authority meeting on 25 September 2014 the Executive will be seeking approval from the Authority for the two proposed amendments.
- 3.6 The 2013/14 Actual PSA charges have been calculated and a report has been prepared for the Authority Finance Committee to seek recommendation to the Authority that the 2013/14 PSA charges are approved.
- 3.7 The 2014/15 Provisional PSA charges have been calculated and we are in the process of drafting a report to seek approval of the PSA charges.

4. Pension Issues

- 4.1 The consultation letters for the new pension strategy are being prepared.
- 4.2 There is a meeting scheduled for 19 September 2014 with the Authority's Actuaries to confirm that the pension Trustees are satisfied with the new pension strategy.
- 4.3 The DfT have been informed of the new proposed pension strategy and have yet to formally comment.
- 4.4 When the new pension scheme for police officers has been introduced work will begin on a new pension scheme for police staff.

5. Internal Audit

- 5.1 The internal audit team will be presenting the Core Financial Controls (Phase 3) internal audit report from the 2013/14 internal audit.
- 5.2 The Key Performance Indicator internal audit work has been completed and the internal audit report has been issued to management for comment.
- 5.3 The internal audit team will be presenting the 2014/15 Internal Audit Plan as agenda item 7.

6. Gifts and Hospitality Register

- 6.1 In line with good governance in public bodies, a copy of the Gifts and Hospitality which have been received, accepted or declined by BTPA Members and BTPA Executive Senior Staff for oversight is prepared. Appendix A lists the full details for the BTPA.
- 6.2 The Authority Finance Director, in the absence of the Chief Executive, has also reviewed the BTP Gifts and Hospitality

Register with the Deputy Chief Constable which is attached at Appendix B.

6.3 Members are asked to note the gifts and hospitality register.

7. Recommendations

7.1 Members are asked to note this report.