

Report to: Police Authority
Agenda #: 4.2
Date: 3 December 2019
Subject: Updates to Code of Governance
Sponsor: BTPA Chair
Author: Head of Governance and Compliance
For: Approval

1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 This paper provides a breakdown of the revisions to the Code of Governance for approval.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Code of Governance sets out the Authority's approach to corporate governance within which the Authority operates. It was developed according to the principles of the HM Treasury and Cabinet Office 'Corporate Governance: Code of Good Practice'.
- 2.2 The Code is a living document and is updated in-year where necessary. It is subject to a more comprehensive formal review following the annual Board Effectiveness Evaluation. All updates are presented to the Authority for approval.

3. Updates

- 3.1 The following updates have been made and a version with tracked changes is attached as Annex A for completeness:
 - The foreword has been updated to show Hugh Ind as the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
 - The terms of reference for Police Authority meetings have been updated in line with updates for departmental boards
 - The terms of reference for the Scottish Railway Policing Committee have been added and the diagram of the governance structure updated to include this as a statutory committee.

- The Strategy and Planning Committee terms of reference have been slightly adjusted to clarify the Committee's role in reviewing business case
- A paragraph has been inserted to clarify that working groups may be set up in-year with their terms of reference reviewed and approved by the full Authority
- The Code of Conduct for Members has been replaced with the latest Cabinet Office Code of Conduct for Board Members which was published in June 2019

4. Next Review

- 4.1 The Code of Governance will be subjected to a substantial review in 2020.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Authority approves the updates to the Code of Governance as detailed in this paper.