



**Philip Seccombe  
Police and Crime  
Commissioner  
for Warwickshire**

## **Decision Application WPC20133**

### **2020/21 Warwickshire Corporate Governance Framework**

<b>Application Date:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	<b>Name of Applicant:</b>	Sara Ansell, Treasurer
<b>Application Decision Reference: WPC20133</b>			
<b>1. Summary of the application</b>			
<p>The Joint Corporate Governance Framework including the financial regulations and schemes of delegation was last updated in October 2019 to reflect the changes arising as a result of the termination of the Strategic Alliance with West Mercia. The framework has now been reviewed as part of the annual process, but also to reflect the ongoing transition of services from the Alliance which was extended under a Home Office direction until April 2020. The corporate Governance framework will apply fully to Warwickshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Warwickshire Police with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020.</p>			
<b>2. Background information:</b>			
<p>The Joint Corporate Governance Framework, which includes the Financial Regulations, has been in place in Warwickshire since the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The PCC and the Chief Constable are separate legal entities in their own right and the governance framework outlines the arrangement in place between the respective parties. The Corporate Governance Framework is comprehensively reviewed on an annual basis or more regularly if there are any significant changes to reflect.</p> <p>As part of that annual review process and to ensure the document is up to date and reflects good governance across the organisations the Framework has been reviewed predominantly by the Treasurer and the force Head of Contracts and Procurement.</p> <p>The review has resulted in a number of changes most significantly to the contract procedure rules section to reflect the changes regarding EU membership and contract value thresholds. Changes to the finance section are minor and reflect the existence of the PCC's capital strategy. The schemes of delegation which supports the document for the PCC and the force details the names, areas of business and values attributed to specific individuals, along with any other sub-delegations to ensure that services operate effectively and reflect the transition of services to Warwickshire from the former alliance arrangements.</p>			

Given the nature of the changes outlined above, there are a number of adjustments to the previous documents, which are included as separate appendices to this decision notice. The Joint Audit and Standards Committee received copies of the documentation as part of the agenda for the March meeting, however, this was postponed due to the Covid19 restrictions. However, feedback on the reviewed framework has been sought electronically from members, which has been incorporated into the final document for approval by the PCC.

### **3. Whether additional information/report is attached to support this decision application**

**YES**

#### **List of additional information/report**

- a) Joint Corporate Governance Framework – PCC and Chief Constable for Warwickshire
- b) Financial and Contract Regulations – PCC and Chief Constable for Warwickshire
- c) Schemes of Delegation – Warwickshire Police, ***Exempt from Publication***
- d) Scheme of Delegation – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, ***Exempt from Publication***

### **4. Expected benefits (non financial)**

The review of this framework will ensure that Warwickshire OPCC and Chief Constable continue to have up to date and good governance arrangements in place to ensure that services can be delivered effectively and efficiently across Warwickshire.

### **5. Impact of not approving the application**

The current Corporate Governance Framework will become outdated and not fit for purpose given the ongoing transition of services from the alliance arrangements with West Mercia. It is therefore necessary to ensure that appropriate arrangements for good governance are in place in Warwickshire for 2020/21.

### **6. Costs**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this decision. However the revised framework will ensure that effective procedures are in place for spending public funds in Warwickshire.

### **7. Savings:**

There are no direct savings arising from this decision. However the revised framework will ensure that the arrangements are in place for achieving value for money in Warwickshire.

**8. Equality and Diversity Implications:**

No specific implications

**9. Treasurer's comments**

The Joint Corporate Governance Framework, which includes the financial and contract regulations in addition to the schemes of delegation for the OPCC and Warwickshire Police have been reviewed thoroughly and will ensure appropriate and robust governance arrangements are in place.

The documents have been reviewed by the Joint Audit and Standards Committee, albeit in a virtual format due to the cancellation of the last meeting due to Covid19, and their comments and feedback have been incorporated into the final document for approval.

The next formal review of the document will take place in March 2021.

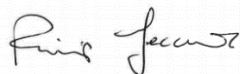
**10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments**

The Joint Corporate Governance Framework has been in place in Warwickshire since Police and Crime Commissioners were established. It has been reviewed and updated to reflect the new governance arrangements adopted between the Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire, as more services transition from the former alliance arrangements..

The Joint Corporate Governance Framework is effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and has been approved by the Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police.

**Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable**

To approve and adopt the Joint Corporate Governance Framework, including the financial and contract regulations

**PCC Signature:****Date of Decision:**

30<sup>th</sup> March 2020