

Warwickshire Joint Audit and Standards Committee Report Summary

Meeting Date: 21st October 2020

Subject: 2019/20 Statement of Accounts – Chief Constable and PCC

Contact details: Jeff Carruthers/Wendy Knox (WP) & Sara Ansell (WOPCC)

Purpose of the Report:

The attached Statement of Accounts documents for 2019/20 for the Chief Constable and PCC have been submitted and the audit of them is almost complete. They are reproduced here for information and comment by JASC. The statutory requirements regarding the completion and publication of the Accounts is defined in the Statement of Accounts (Account and Audit Regulations 2015 S15(2)), however, due to the coronavirus pandemic and the challenges that it brought, these were amended by the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. The amendment reflected a change in the latest date for the publication of draft accounts from the 31st May to the 31st August and the publication of the final audited accounts from the 31st July to the 30th November. In addition they required the public inspection period to commence on or before the first working day of September 2020, meaning that for 2019/2020 public inspection periods across PCC's and forces may differ. The 30th November is also the target date for the audited statement of accounts, although this is not a statutory requirement.

The Committee have been given a more detailed briefing on the Statements, prior to the formal meeting, providing them with an increased opportunity to ask questions and scrutinise the accounts in more detail and to gain greater understanding. The Statement of Accounts for 2019/20 have been audited by Grant Thornton, who will provide a verbal update on the actual progress at the meeting as the final stages of the work are being completed, at the time of writing. The Committee are asked to consider and comment on the Statements prior to formal sign off by the Chief Constable, PCC and their respective staff, as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

Recommendation:

The Audit Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts for the Chief Constable and the PCC prior to formal sign off.

