

Warwickshire Joint Audit and Standards Committee Report Summary

Meeting Date: Tuesday 26th September 2023

Subject: PCC and Chief Constable Letters of representation 2022/23

Contact details: Jackson Murray, Grant Thornton

Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to provide to the Joint Audit and Standards Committee the draft letters of representation, for Warwickshire PCC and Chief Constable. They are subject to the finalisation of the audit and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Recommendation

For the JASC to note the draft letters of representation and provide any feedback to the PCC and Chief Constable, prior to their sign off.

Background

A management representation letter is a letter written by the external auditors, which is signed by the PCC and Chief Constable. The letter attests to the accuracy of the financial statements that have been submitted to the auditors for their analysis.

Executive Summary

This committee undertakes its role in accordance with the latest CIPFA guidance on Audit Committees, and this guidance recommends the following regarding the audit committee's role in relation to the external audit process:

Monitoring the External Audit Process

1. Providing assurance that the external auditor team maintains independence following its appointment;
2. Receiving and considering the work of external audit, and
3. Supporting the quality and effectiveness of the external audit process

In order to fulfil this requirement, and also in terms of the Committees terms of reference, the JASC are requested to consider the draft Management Representation Letter as appended to this report and members are invited to raise any specific issues with Grant Thornton regarding the external audit or contents of the letters of representation.

The letters of representation are draft at this stage, pending the finalisation of the audit.
A verbal update on the latest position will be provided to members at the meeting.