

Audit Completion Report

Office of the Police and Crime
Commissioner for Cleveland and the
Chief Constable for Cleveland
Year ended 31 March 2022

September 2022



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Our reports are prepared in the context of the 'Statement of Responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies' and the 'Appointing Person Terms of Appointment' issued by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Reports and letters prepared by appointed auditors and addressed to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and the Chief Constable for Cleveland are prepared for the sole use of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and the Chief Constable for Cleveland and we take no responsibility to any member or officer in their individual capacity or to any third party. Mazars LLP is the UK firm of Mazars, an international advisory and accountancy group. Mazars LLP is registered by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.



Steve Turner, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Mark Webster, Chief Constable for Cleveland

Cleveland Police
Police Headquarters
Community Safety Hub
1 Cliffland Way
Middlesbrough
TS9 9GL

22 September 2022

Dear Sirs

Audit Completion Report – Year ended 31 March 2022

We are pleased to present our Audit Completion Report for the year ended 31 March 2022. The purpose of this document is to summarise our audit conclusions.

The scope of our work, including identified significant audit risks and other areas of management judgement, was outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum which we presented on 4 May 2022. We have reviewed our Audit Strategy Memorandum and concluded that the original significant audit risks and other areas of management judgement remain appropriate. We would like to express our thanks for the assistance of your team during our audit.

If you would like to discuss any matters in more detail then please do not hesitate to contact me on 07896 684 771.

Yours faithfully

Gavin Barker

Gavin Barker
Director
Mazars LLP

Mazars LLP
Bank Chambers
26 Mosley Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1DF

01

Section 01:

Executive summary

1. Executive summary

Principal conclusions and significant findings

The detailed scope of our work as your appointed auditor for 2021/22 is set out in the National Audit Office's (NAO) Code of Audit Practice. Our responsibilities and powers are derived from the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and, as outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum, our audit has been conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and means we focus on audit risks that we have assessed as resulting in a higher risk of material misstatement.

In section 4 of this report we have set out our conclusions and significant findings from our audit. This section includes our conclusions on the audit risks and areas of management judgement in our Audit Strategy Memorandum, which include:

- Management override of controls;
- Net defined benefit liability valuation; and
- Valuation of land and buildings (Group and PCC only).

Misstatements and internal control recommendations

Section 5 sets out internal control recommendations and section 6 sets out audit misstatements. Section 7 outlines our work on the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland (PCC) and the Chief Constable for Cleveland's (CC) arrangements to achieve economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their use of resources.

Status and audit opinion

We have substantially completed our audit in respect of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. At the time of preparing this report, significant matters remain outstanding as outlined in section 2. We will provide an update to you in relation to the significant matters outstanding through issuance of a follow up letter.

Subject to the satisfactory conclusion of the remaining audit work, we have the following conclusions:



Audit opinion

We anticipate issuing an unqualified opinion, without modification, on the financial statements. Our proposed audit opinion is included in the draft auditor's report in Appendix B.



Value for Money

We are yet to complete our work in respect of the PCC and CC's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2022. We anticipate reporting a significant weakness and recommendation in relation to the Inadequate rating following the HMICFRS inspection in September 2019. Further detail on our Value for Money work is provided in section 07 of this report.



Whole of Government Accounts (WGA)

We have not yet received group instructions from the National Audit Office in respect of our work on the Group's WGA submission. We are unable to commence our work in this area until such instructions have been received.



Wider powers

The 2014 Act requires us to give an elector, or any representative of the elector, the opportunity to question us about the accounting records of the PCC and CC and to consider any objection made to the accounts. No questions or objections have been received.






02

Section 02:

Status of the audit

2. Status of the audit

Our work is substantially complete and there are currently no matters of which we are aware that would require modification of our audit opinion, subject to the outstanding matters detailed below.

Audit area	Status	Description of the outstanding matters
Net defined benefit liability (pensions)		We are still completing our work on pensions including awaiting the letter of assurance from the pension fund auditor.
Review and closure procedures		Including reviews of completed work, checking the final version of the financial statements and consideration of any post balance sheet events.
Whole of Government Accounts		Reviewing and submitting the Whole of Governments Accounts consolidation schedules. The NAO has not yet issued guidance to auditors.



Likely to result in material adjustment or significant change to disclosures within the financial statements.



Potential to result in material adjustment or significant change to disclosures within the financial statements.



Not considered likely to result in material adjustment or change to disclosures within the financial statements.

03

Section 03: **Audit approach**

3. Audit approach

Changes to our audit approach

We provided details of our intended audit approach in our Audit Strategy Memorandum in May 2022. We have not made any changes to our audit approach since we presented our Audit Strategy Memorandum.

Materiality

Our provisional materiality at the planning stage of the audit was set at £5.13m for the Group, £3.21m for the PCC and £4.77m for the CC using a benchmark of 2% of gross operating expenditure. Our final assessment of materiality, based on the final financial statements is £4.91m for the Group, £3.28m for the PCC and £4.52m for the CC using the same benchmark.

Use of experts

There are no changes to our planned approach since issuing our Audit Strategy Memorandum as set out below:

Item of account	Management’s expert	Our expert
Defined benefit liability valuation and disclosures	AON Hewitt (Actuary) for police and other employees.	Report commissioned by the National Audit Office from PwC in respect of actuaries nationally.
Property, plant and equipment (PPE) valuations	Valuer - Sanderson Wetherall	We have considered relevant valuation information available from third parties.

Service organisations

There are no changes to our planned approach since issuing our Audit Strategy Memorandum as set out below

Items of account	Service organisation	Audit approach
Payment of pension lump sums and monthly pension payroll to retirees under the Police Pension schemes.	XPS	Walkthrough of transactions as part of planning and testing of pensions at the year end.



04

Section 04: **Significant findings**

4. Significant findings

- In this section we outline the significant findings from our audit. These findings include:
- our audit conclusions regarding significant risks and key areas of management judgement outlined in the Audit Strategy Memorandum;
 - our comments in respect of the accounting policies and disclosures that you have adopted in the financial statements. On page 13 we have concluded whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework and commented on any significant accounting policy changes that have been made during the year;
 - any further significant matters discussed with management; and
 - any significant difficulties we experienced during the audit.

Significant risks

Management override of controls]	Description of the risk
	In all entities, management at various levels within an organisation are in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of their ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. Due to the unpredictable way in which such override could occur, we consider there to be a risk of material misstatement due to fraud and thus a significant risk on all audits.
	How we addressed this risk We addressed this risk through performing audit work over: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accounting estimates impacting amounts included in the financial statements;• Consideration of identified significant transactions outside the normal course of business; and• Journals recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparation of the financial statements.
	Audit conclusion There are no significant issues arising from our work that we are required to report to you.

4. Significant findings

Net defined benefit liability valuation	Description of the risk <p>The financial statements contain material pension entries in respect of retirement benefits. The calculation of these pension figures, both assets and liabilities, can be subject to significant volatility and includes estimates based upon a complex interaction of actuarial assumptions. This results in an increased risk of material misstatement.</p>
	How we addressed this risk <p>We completed the following procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We discussed with key contacts any significant changes to the pension estimates. In addition to our standard programme of work in this area, we evaluated the management controls you have in place to assess the reasonableness of the figures provided by the Actuary and considered the reasonableness of the Actuary's output, referring to an expert's report on all actuaries nationally;• We reviewed the appropriateness of the key assumptions included within the valuations, compared them to expected ranges and reviewed the methodology applied in the valuation. We considered the adequacy of disclosures in the financial statements; and• We also sought assurance from the auditor of the Teesside Pension Fund.
	Audit conclusion <p>Our work is ongoing as we require the pension fund auditor's letter of assurance. We have not identified any material issues to bring to your attention at this stage.</p>

Valuation of land and buildings (Group and PCC only)	Description of the risk <p>The financial statements contain material entries on the Balance Sheet as well as material disclosure notes in relation to the PCC and Group's holding of PPE. Although the PCC and Group uses a valuation expert to provide information on valuations, there remains a high degree of estimation uncertainty associated with the revaluation of PPE due to the significant judgements and number of variables involved in providing revaluations. We have therefore identified the valuation of PPE to be an area of significant risk.</p>
	How we addressed this risk <p>We completed the following procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• assessed the arrangements for ensuring that property, plant and equipment valuations are reasonable and not materially misstated;• assessed the basis of valuations, using third party trend data where appropriate, as part of our challenge of the reasonableness of the valuations provided by Valuers; and• considered the competence, skills and experience of the Valuers and the instructions issued to the Valuers.
	Audit conclusion <p>There are no significant issues arising from our work that we are required to report to you.</p>

4. Significant findings

Qualitative aspects of the Group and PCC and CC’s accounting practices

We have reviewed the Group, PCC and CC’s accounting policies and disclosures and concluded they comply with the 2021/22 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, appropriately tailored to the Group and PCC and CC’s circumstances.

Draft accounts were received from the PCC and CC on 21 June 2022, ahead of the revised statutory deadline and were of a good quality, supported by comprehensive working papers.

Significant matters discussed with management

There were no significant matters discussed with management.

Significant difficulties during the audit

During the course of the audit we did not encounter any significant difficulties and we have had the full co-operation of management.

Wider responsibilities

Our powers and responsibilities under the 2014 Act are broad and include the ability to:

- issue a report in the public interest;
- make statutory recommendations that must be considered and responded to publicly;
- apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law; and
- issue an advisory notice under schedule 8 of the 2014 Act.

We have not exercised any of these powers as part of our 2021/22 audit.

The 2014 Act also gives rights to local electors and other parties, such as the right to ask questions of the auditor and the right to make an objection to an item of account. No such objections have been raised.



05

Section 05:

Internal control recommendations

5. Internal control recommendations

The purpose of our audit was to express an opinion on the financial statements. As part of our audit we have considered the internal controls in place relevant to the preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures to allow us to express an opinion on the financial statements but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control or to identify any significant deficiencies in their design or operation.

The matters reported are limited to those deficiencies and other control recommendations that we have identified during our normal audit procedures and that we consider to be of sufficient importance to merit being reported. If we had performed more extensive procedures on internal control we might have identified more deficiencies to be reported or concluded that some of the reported deficiencies need not in fact have been reported. Our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all deficiencies that may exist or improvements that could be made.

Our work has not identified any significant deficiencies in our 2021/22 audit to report, and there were none in 2020/21 to follow up.



06

Section 06:

Summary of misstatements

6. Summary of misstatements

This section outlines the misstatements identified during the course of the audit, above the trivial threshold for adjustment of £0.147 million for the Group, £0.098 million for the PCC and £0.136m for the CC. There were no unadjusted misstatements above the trivial threshold. Adjusted misstatements are set out below and other disclosure errors are on the next page.

Adjusted misstatements

		Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		Balance Sheet	
Group		Dr (£'000)	Cr (£'000)	Dr (£'000)	Cr (£'000)
1	Cr: Other long term liabilities (pension liability) Dr: Unusable Reserves Cr: Movement in reserves Statement Dr: Re-measurement of the net defined liability				4,319
			4,319	4,319	
		4,319			
The receipt of the revised actuary reports to reflect the actual pension fund assets, were received after the production of the draft statements. The movement between the estimates and actuals was material. As a result the accounts have been updated to reflect this position.					
This results in an overstatement of assets in the financial statements of the Group, PCC and Chief Constable. The Group total of £4,319m is split between the PCC £310k and the Chief Constable £4.009m. This also impacts on the pension related notes of the PCC (Notes 20 and 21) and the Chief Constable (Notes 13 and 14). There are a number of other amendments required to disclosures including the split of investments note between equities, property, cash and other; the estimated pension expenses in future periods (March 2023 and March 2024); and a number of assumptions (eg. Inflation, pension increases).					
Total adjusted misstatements		4,319	4,319	4,319	4,319

6. Summary of misstatements

Disclosure amendments

Our audit work identified a number of amendments to disclosures and accounting policies, most of which were trivial. The most significant are summarised below and all have been amended in the financial statements.

Note 30 Borrowing: The split of loan maturities is incorrect as it currently shows maturity in 5-10 years as £3.02m but this should be £1.52m in 2-5 years and £1.5m in 5-10 years.

Note 12: Capital commitments: Capital commitments is shown as £2.063m but should be £2.604m. In addition, the date should be 2022 not 2021 as currently shown.

Movement in Reserves Statement: Earmarked reserves (revenue) is shown as £3.064m but should be £2.645m and capital is shown as £7.53m but should be £7.95m. There is no change to the overall total of earmarked reserves of £10.595m.

Expenditure and Funding Analysis: An amendment of £2.52m was required to the Group and PCC Expenditure and Funding Analysis to reflect a change in the presentation to show earmarked reserves as well as general fund balances in the note.

Narrative report: There were a small number of errors in the PCC and Group and CC narrative report which were amended to ensure consistency with the financial statements.



07

Section 07: **Value for Money**

7. Value for Money

Approach to Value for Money

We are required to consider whether the PCC and CC has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The NAO issues guidance to auditors that underpins the work we are required to carry out and sets out the reporting criteria that we are required to consider. The reporting criteria are:

- **Financial sustainability** - How the PCC and CC plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services
- **Governance** - How the PCC and CC ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks
- **Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness** - How the PCC and CC uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services

At the planning stage of the audit, we undertake work to understand the arrangements that the PCC and CC has in place under each of the reporting criteria and we identify risks of significant weaknesses in those arrangements. Although we describe this work as planning work, we keep our understanding of arrangements under review and update our risk assessment throughout the audit to reflect emerging issues that may suggest significant weaknesses in arrangements exist.

The table overleaf outlines the risks of significant weaknesses in arrangements that we have identified, the risk-based procedures we have undertaken, and the results of our work.

Where our risk-based procedures identify actual significant weaknesses in arrangements we are required to report these and make recommendations for improvement. Where such significant weaknesses are identified, we report these in the audit report.

The primary output of our work on the PCC and CC's arrangements is the commentary on those arrangements that forms part of the Auditor's Annual Report. We intend to issue the Auditor's Annual Report within 3 months of signing the audit opinion on the financial statements.

Status of our work

We are yet to complete our work in respect of the PCC and CC's arrangements for the year ended 31 March 2022 as we are still finalising our Auditor's Annual Report for 2020/21. We raised a risk of significant weakness in our Audit Strategy Memorandum for 2021/22 and this is set out on the next page. We anticipate reporting a significant weakness and recommendation again in 2021/22 in relation to the Inadequate rating following the HMICFRS inspection in September 2019, but we need to update our understanding of this issue as it relates to the 2021/22 financial year. We will conclude on this when we issue our Auditor's Annual Report for 2021/22.



7. Value for Money

Risks of significant weaknesses in arrangements

In our Audit Strategy Memorandum we reported the risk of significant weaknesses in arrangements that we had identified as part of our planning procedures. Our progress on the identified risk is outlined in the table below.

Risk of significant weakness in arrangements		Financial sustainability	Governance	Improving the 3Es	Work undertaken and conclusions reached
1	<p>HMIC FRS Inspections</p> <p>The Force is subject to an extensive inspection regime by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS). The most recent report was published in September 2019 with an overall assessment that Cleveland Police’s performance is inadequate and has declined considerably since its last inspection. The Force has therefore been placed into their national oversight process.</p> <p>During our 2020/21 audit, we recognised the progress that had been made in addressing the issues raised by the HMICFRS but we concluded that despite this, Cleveland Police retains the ‘inadequate’ status until at least the next inspection and therefore this remains a significant risk.</p>	●	●	●	<p>Work undertaken</p> <p>We are still finalising our work on the Auditor’s Annual Report for 2020/21 and we plan to complete our work for 2021/22 within 3 months of issuing the audit opinion on the 2021/22 financial statements.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>Our 2021/22 value for money work will be completed following issuance of our 2021/22 audit opinion on the financial statements.</p>

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A: Draft management representation letter

B: Draft audit report

C: Independence

D: Other communications

Appendix A: Draft management representation letter – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and Group

To: Mr Gavin Barker
Director
Mazars LLP

Date

Dear Gavin

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and the Group - audit for year ended 31 March 2022

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and the Group (the PCC and Group) for the year ended 31 March 2022 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the Code).

I confirm that the following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, inspection of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that I can properly make each of the following representations to you.

My responsibility for the financial statements and accounting information

I believe that I have fulfilled my responsibilities for the true and fair presentation and preparation of the financial statements in accordance with Code.

My responsibility to provide and disclose relevant information.

I have provided you with:

- Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other material;
- Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- Unrestricted access to individuals within the PCC and Group you determined it was necessary to contact in order to obtain audit evidence.

I confirm as Chief Finance Officer that I have taken all the necessary steps to make me aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you, as auditors, are aware of this information. As far as I am aware there is no relevant audit information of which you, as auditors, are unaware.

Accounting records

I confirm that all transactions that have a material effect on the financial statements have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements. All other records and related information, including minutes of all Board and relevant committee meetings, have been made available to you.

Accounting policies

I confirm that I have reviewed the accounting policies applied during the year in accordance with the Code and International Accounting Standard 8 and consider these policies to faithfully represent the effects of transactions, other events or conditions on the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the PCC and Group

Accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value

I confirm that any significant assumptions used by the PCC and Group in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

Contingencies

There are no material contingent losses including pending or potential litigation that should be accrued where:

- Information presently available indicates that it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability had been incurred at the balance sheet date; and
- The amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated.

There are no material contingent losses that should be disclosed where, although either or both the conditions specified above are not met, there is a reasonable possibility that a loss, or a loss greater than that accrued, may have been incurred at the balance sheet date.

There are no contingent gains which should be disclosed.

All material matters, including unasserted claims, that may result in litigation against the PCC and Group have been brought to your attention. All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to you and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the Code.

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Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

Laws and regulations

I confirm that I have disclosed to you all those events of which I am aware which involve known or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, together with the actual or contingent consequences which may arise therefrom. We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the accounts in the event of non-compliance.

Fraud and error

I acknowledge my responsibility as Chief Finance Officer for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error. I have disclosed to you:

- All the results of my assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud;
- All knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the PCC and Group involving:
 - management and Those Charged With Governance;
 - employees who have significant roles in internal control; and
 - others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

I have disclosed to you all information in relation to any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the PCC and Group's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

Related party transactions

I confirm that all related party relationships, transactions and balances, have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the Code. I have disclosed to you the identity of the PCC and Group's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware.

Impairment review

To the best of my knowledge, there is nothing to indicate that there is a permanent reduction in the recoverable amount of intangible assets below their carrying value at the statement of financial position date. An impairment review is therefore not considered necessary.

Charges on assets

All the PCC and Group's assets are free from any charges exercisable by third parties except as disclosed within the financial statements.

Future commitments

I am not aware of any plans, intentions or commitments that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities or give rise to additional liabilities.

Ukraine

We confirm we have carried out an assessment of the potential impact of Russian Forces entering Ukraine on the PCC and Group and there is no significant impact on the PCC and Group's operations from restrictions or sanctions in place.

Subsequent events

I confirm all events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the Code requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. Should further material events occur after the date of this letter which may necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto, I will advise you accordingly.

Going concern

I confirm that I have carried out an assessment of the potential impact of the COVID-19 Virus pandemic on the PCC and Group, including the impact of mitigation measures and uncertainties and am satisfied the going concern assumption remains appropriate and that no material uncertainty has been identified.

To the best of my knowledge there is nothing to indicate that the PCC and Group will not continue as a going concern in the foreseeable future. The period to which I have paid particular attention in assessing the appropriateness of the going concern basis is not less than twelve months from the date of approval of the accounts.

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Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

Annual Governance Statement

I am satisfied that the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) fairly reflects the PCC and Group’s risk assurance and governance framework and I confirm that I am not aware of any significant risks that are not disclosed within the AGS.

Unadjusted misstatements

I confirm that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. A list of the uncorrected misstatements is attached to this letter as an Appendix (if applicable).

Yours sincerely

Chief Finance Officer

Appendix A: Draft management representation letter – Chief Constable for Cleveland

To: Mr Gavin Barker
Director
Mazars LLP

Date

Dear Gavin

Chief Constable for Cleveland - audit for year ended 31 March 2022

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Chief Constable for Cleveland (Chief Constable) for the year ended 31 March 2022 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the Code).

I confirm that the following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, inspection of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that I can properly make each of the following representations to you.

My responsibility for the financial statements and accounting information

I believe that I have fulfilled my responsibilities for the true and fair presentation and preparation of the financial statements in accordance with Code.

My responsibility to provide and disclose relevant information.

I have provided you with:

- Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other material;
- Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- Unrestricted access to individuals within the Chief Constable you determined it was necessary to contact in order to obtain audit evidence.

I confirm as Chief Finance Officer that I have taken all the necessary steps to make me aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you, as auditors, are aware of this information. As far as I am aware there is no relevant audit information of which you, as auditors, are unaware.

Accounting records

I confirm that all transactions that have a material effect on the financial statements have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements. All other records and related information, including minutes of all Board and relevant committee meetings, have been made available to you.

Accounting policies

I confirm that I have reviewed the accounting policies applied during the year in accordance with the Code and International Accounting Standard 8 and consider these policies to faithfully represent the effects of transactions, other events or conditions on the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the Chief Constable.

Accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value

I confirm that any significant assumptions used by the Chief Constable in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

Contingencies

There are no material contingent losses including pending or potential litigation that should be accrued where:

- Information presently available indicates that it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability had been incurred at the balance sheet date; and
- The amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated.

There are no material contingent losses that should be disclosed where, although either or both the conditions specified above are not met, there is a reasonable possibility that a loss, or a loss greater than that accrued, may have been incurred at the balance sheet date.

There are no contingent gains which should be disclosed.

All material matters, including unasserted claims, that may result in litigation against the Chief Constable have been brought to your attention. All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to you and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the Code.

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Laws and regulations

I confirm that I have disclosed to you all those events of which I am aware which involve known or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, together with the actual or contingent consequences which may arise therefrom. We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the accounts in the event of non-compliance.

Fraud and error

I acknowledge my responsibility as Chief Finance Officer for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error. I have disclosed to you:

- All the results of my assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud;
- All knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Chief Constable involving:
 - management and Those Charged With Governance;
 - employees who have significant roles in internal control; and
 - others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

I have disclosed to you all information in relation to any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Chief Constable's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

Related party transactions

I confirm that all related party relationships, transactions and balances, have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the Code. I have disclosed to you the identity of the Chief Constable's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware.

Impairment review

To the best of my knowledge, there is nothing to indicate that there is a permanent reduction in the recoverable amount of intangible assets below their carrying value at the statement of financial position date. An impairment review is therefore not considered necessary.

Charges on assets

All the Chief Constable's assets are free from any charges exercisable by third parties except as disclosed within the financial statements.

Future commitments

I am not aware of any plans, intentions or commitments that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities or give rise to additional liabilities.

Ukraine

We confirm we have carried out an assessment of the potential impact of Russian Forces entering Ukraine on the Chief Constable and there is no significant impact on the Chief Constable's operations from restrictions or sanctions in place.

Subsequent events

I confirm all events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the Code requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. Should further material events occur after the date of this letter which may necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto, I will advise you accordingly.

Going concern

I confirm that I have carried out an assessment of the potential impact of the COVID-19 Virus pandemic on the Chief Constable, including the impact of mitigation measures and uncertainties and am satisfied the going concern assumption remains appropriate and that no material uncertainty has been identified.

To the best of my knowledge there is nothing to indicate that the Chief Constable will not continue as a going concern in the foreseeable future. The period to which I have paid particular attention in assessing the appropriateness of the going concern basis is not less than twelve months from the date of approval of the accounts.

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Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

Annual Governance Statement

I am satisfied that the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) fairly reflects the Chief Constable’s risk assurance and governance framework and I confirm that I am not aware of any significant risks that are not disclosed within the AGS.

Unadjusted misstatements

I confirm that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. A list of the uncorrected misstatements is attached to this letter as an Appendix (if applicable).

Yours sincerely

Chief Finance Officer

Appendix B: Draft audit report (Group and PCC)

Independent auditor’s report to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and Group

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and Group (Group and PCC) for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Group and PCC Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements, the Group and PCC Movement in Reserves Statements, the Group and PCC Balance Sheets, the Group and PCC Cash Flow Statement, the Group Police Pension Fund and Net Assets Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group and PCC as at 31st March 2022 and of the Group and PCC’s expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s responsibilities section of our report. We are independent of the Group and PCC in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the the Chief Finance Officer’s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group and PCC’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the the Chief Finance Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Group and PCC)

Other information

The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Annual Governance Statement and information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Chief Finance Officer is also responsible for such internal control as the Chief Finance Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Chief Finance Officer is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, on the assumption that the functions of the Group and PCC will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Group and PCC to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Based on our understanding of the Group and PCC, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Local Government Act 2003 (and associated regulations made under section 21), the Local Government Finance Acts of 1988, 1992 and 2012, and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Group and PCC)

We evaluated the Chief Finance Officer’s incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- discussing with management and the PCC, the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- considering the risk of acts by the Group and PCC which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- making enquiries of management and the PCC on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management and the PCC. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

We are also required to conclude on whether the Chief Finance Officer’s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. We performed our work in accordance with Practice Note 10: Audit of financial statement and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom, and Supplementary Guidance Note 01, issued by the National Audit Office in September 2021.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Group and PCC)

Report on the PCC’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Matter on which we are required to report by exception **[this section will be updated before the audit report is issued.]**

We are required to report to you if, in our view, we are not satisfied that the PCC has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2022.

We have not completed our work on the PCC’s arrangements and our still finalising our reporting on our value for money work for 2020/21 before completing our work for 2021/22.

We will report the outcome of our work on the PCC’s arrangements in our commentary on those arrangements within the Auditor’s Annual Report. Our audit completion certificate will set out any matters which we are required to report by exception.

Responsibilities of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

The PCC is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We are required under section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the PCC has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the PCC’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in December 2021.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Group and PCC)

Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 44 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until we have completed:

- the work necessary to issue our assurance statement in respect of the Group's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack; and
- the work necessary to satisfy ourselves that the PCC has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Gavin Barker
Director
For and on behalf of Mazars LLP

The Corner
Bank Chambers
26 Mosley Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1DF

Date: to be confirmed



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Chief Constable)

Independent auditor’s report to the Chief Constable for Cleveland

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Chief Constable for Cleveland (Chief Constable) for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Chief Constable’s Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Chief Constable’s Movement in Reserves Statement, the Chief Constable’s Balance Sheet, the Chief Constable’s Cash Flow Statement, the Chief Constable’s Police Pension Fund and Net Assets Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Chief Constable as at 31st March 2022 and of the Chief Constable’s expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s responsibilities section of our report. We are independent of the Chief Constable in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the the Chief Finance Officer’s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Chief Constable’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the the Chief Finance Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Chief Constable)

Other information

The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Annual Governance Statement and information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Chief Finance Officer is also responsible for such internal control as the Chief Finance Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Chief Finance Officer is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, on the assumption that the functions of the Chief Constable will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Chief Constable to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Based on our understanding of the Chief Constable, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Local Government Act 2003 (and associated regulations made under section 21), the Local Government Finance Acts of 1988, 1992 and 2012, and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Chief Constable)

We evaluated the Chief Finance Officer’s incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- discussing with management and the Chief Constable, the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- considering the risk of acts by the Chief Constable which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- making enquiries of management and the Chief Constable on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management and the Chief Constable. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

We are also required to conclude on whether the Chief Finance Officer’s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. We performed our work in accordance with Practice Note 10: Audit of financial statement and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom, and Supplementary Guidance Note 01, issued by the National Audit Office in September 2021.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Chief Constable)

Report on the Chief Constable’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Matter on which we are required to report by exception **[this section will be updated before the audit report is issued.]**

We are required to report to you if, in our view, we are not satisfied that the Chief Constable has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2022.

We have not completed our work on the Chief Constable’s arrangements and our still finalizing our reporting on our value for money work for 2020/21 before completing our work for 2021/22.

We will report the outcome of our work on the Chief Constable’s arrangements in our commentary on those arrangements within the Auditor’s Annual Report. Our audit completion certificate will set out any matters which we are required to report by exception.

Responsibilities of Chief Constable for Cleveland

The Chief Constable is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We are required under section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Chief Constable has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Chief Constable’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in December 2021.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects.



Appendix B: Draft audit report (Chief Constable)

Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the Chief Constable for Cleveland, as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 44 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Chief Constable for Cleveland those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Chief Constable for Cleveland, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until we have completed:

- the work necessary to issue our assurance statement in respect of the Group's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack; and
- the work necessary to satisfy ourselves that the Chief Constable has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Gavin Barker
Director
For and on behalf of Mazars LLP

The Corner
Bank Chambers
26 Mosley Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1DF

Date: to be confirmed



Appendix C: Independence

As part of our ongoing risk assessment we monitor our relationships with you to identify any new actual or perceived threats to our independence within the regulatory or professional requirements governing us as your auditors.

We can confirm that no new threats to independence have been identified since issuing the Audit Strategy Memorandum and therefore we remain independent.



Appendix D: Other communications

Other communication	Response
Compliance with Laws and Regulations	We have not identified any significant matters involving actual or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations. We will obtain written representations from management that all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements have been disclosed.
External confirmations	We did not experience any issues with respect to obtaining external confirmations.
Related parties	<p>We did not identify any significant matters relating to the audit of related parties.</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management confirming that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. they have disclosed to us the identity of related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which they are aware; andb. they have appropriately accounted for and disclosed such relationships and transactions in accordance with the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework..
Going Concern	<p>We have not identified any evidence to cause us to disagree with the Chief Financial Officer that the Group and PCC and the Chief Constable will be a going concern, and therefore we consider that the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in the preparation of the financial statements..</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management, confirming that all relevant information covering a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements has been taken into account in assessing the appropriateness of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements.</p>

Appendix D: Other communications

Other communication	Response
Subsequent events	<p>We are required to obtain evidence about whether events occurring between the date of the financial statements and the date of the auditor's report that require adjustment of, or disclosure in, the financial statements are appropriately reflected in those financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management that all events occurring subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the applicable financial reporting framework requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.</p>
Matters related to fraud	<p>We have designed our audit approach to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud. In addition to the work performed by us, we will obtain written representations from management, and the PCC and Chief Constable (as those charged with governance) confirming that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. they acknowledge their responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud;b. they have disclosed to the auditor the results of management's assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud;c. they have disclosed to the auditor their knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Management;ii. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; oriii. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements; andd. they have disclosed to the auditor their knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

Gavin Barker, Director

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Mazars

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Mazars is an internationally integrated partnership, specialising in audit, accountancy, advisory, tax and legal services*. Operating in over 90 countries and territories around the world, we draw on the expertise of 40,400 professionals – 24,400 in Mazars' integrated partnership and 16,000 via the Mazars North America Alliance – to assist clients of all sizes at every stage in their development.

*where permitted under applicable country laws.