



Joint Independent Audit Committee

20 June 2023

Monitoring Officer Protocol

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. To present for Member feedback, a draft update to the Monitoring Officer Protocol.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. A Monitoring Officer Protocol has been in place for the PCC and its statutory predecessor since 2006, following External Audit recommendations to that effect.

2.2. It is intended to set out how the function of statutory Monitoring Officer will operate in the corporate governance setup we have adopted – as well as the interrelationship between the MO and the Force Solicitor on identifying and addressing matters of legal risk.

2.3. The Protocol was last revised in 2014 and now requires adaptation in the light of changes to the roles and functions of the Commissioner and the way in which the role now operates.

2.4. The proposed Protocol is attached in draft at Appendix A. The following are the key changes:

2.4.1. Provisions for Fire & Rescue in the light of the PCC's responsibility as PFCCFRA

2.4.2. Alignment with the Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer role profile, allocating PFCCFRA Monitoring Officer responsibility to that role

2.4.3. Up to date provisions in respect of the Deputy Monitoring Officer role and the way in which the function is carried out resiliently and with the appropriate reach into the single corporate structure for Fire & Rescue

2.4.4. Up to date provisions reflecting the law as it currently stands

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1. Members are invited to provide feedback to the Monitoring Officer on the draft Protocol, following which it will be progressed to the Executive Board (and FRS Strategic Leadership Team) for approval.

4. AUTHOR

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