

Staffordshire Commissioners Office
Governance & Assurance Report
ETAP Public Meeting 27th October 2021

Item 5

1. Audit & Reviews 2021/22:

Area	Completed By	Date Complete	Outcome
SCO Covid Response	ETAP	Ongoing	
SCO Governance Arrangements	RSM	Due Q4	
SCO Strategic Risk Management	RSM	Due Q4	

2. Recommendation's Update:

Area	Recommendation	Update / Action Taken	Date Complete
ICVA Quality Assurance	The scheme should actively plan for the next round of applications as the basis for making its subsequent application next time round (either for Gold Standard or, if that is achieved this time, to focus on securing Platinum).	QAF assessment delayed due to Covid – planning in place for commencement of assessment in January 2022.	
Annual Governance statement 2020/21	The SCO is to undertake a review in 2021/22 of the governance arrangements, specifically the internal control and escalation structure to ensure fit for purpose and where possible create further efficiency across the organisations.	Completed throughout the summer of 2021. Revised arrangements approved at both Force and FARS Strategic Governance Boards.	October 2021.
Annual Governance statement 2020/21	The SCO to implement Part 1 requirements in conjunction with both operational services and ensure appropriate feedback to the Home Office consultation on Part 2 of the PCC review.	Ongoing.	
Annual Governance statement 2020/21	The SCO is to develop and deliver a full induction package including a plan for the first 100 days in office of the new PFCC, ensuring that the new incumbent and any deputies are assisted in maintaining continuity, whilst also having the ability to bring their own strategic intent to the fore. A recruitment process for a new Chief Constable & Chief Officer will take place during 2021/22. The office will work with the College of Policing, the National fire Chiefs Council and other local partners to ensure a robust process that attracts good applicants and ultimately excellent appointments.	100 day plan completed. Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer confirmed in post by the Police Fire and Crime Panel.	October 2021.

Annual Governance statement 2020/21	The SCO to look to enhance provision of information surrounding sustainability agendas across the SCO, Force and FARS in the next AGS for FY 2021/22.	Ongoing.	
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3. Risk Management:

The SCO Strategic Risk Register is submitted to ETAP Finance Panel on a quarterly basis and discussed in that forum.

SCO, Police and Fire Strategic Risk Registers form part of the SGB Collaboration Agenda on a quarterly basis. The registers are also shared for information to each Joint Strategic Estates Board and Strategic Governance Board.

In July 2021 with the commencement of the new PFCC the SCO Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite was approved by the new Commissioner.

An overview of current risks contained in both the SCO Strategic and Operational registers is as below:

- 11 Strategic Risks, two of which sit outside of the desired risk appetite and are being closely managed by the SCO Chief Executive with support from the management team.
- 32 Operational risks that are being managed directly by the Heads of Service.

4. Governance & Assurance Operational Update:

Items of interest between reports to this forum:

- Review and approval of SCO Corporate Governance Framework by the new PFCC Ben Adams.
- Review and Approval of FARS Corporate Governance Framework by the new PFCC Ben Adams.
- Full review of SCO Governance Arrangements. Report approved at Police SGB 5th August, Fire SGB 19th October 2021. Changes implemented and being monitored.
- Full review of SCO Safer Neighbourhood Panels & Scrutiny Arrangements. Phase 1 Scrutiny Report approved at SGB 5th September. 1st October 2021 Commissioners Independent Scrutiny Panels project launched.
- Full review of SCO Safer Neighbourhood Panels & Scrutiny Arrangements. Phase 2, Staffordshire Resident involvement in Policing, due to conclude in November 2021.

Significant Items for review and approval in the coming months:

- SCO Annual Governance Statement Production, ETAP early involvement.
- FARS Annual Governance Statement – alignment to CIPFA Code of Practice.
- Corporate Governance Framework approval by new Chief Fire Officer.
- Corporate Governance Framework approval by new Chief Constable.

Other Governance items to note:

- Submission in November 2021 to CoPaCC for the Annual Statutory Transparency Quality Mark.
- Initial scoping on external focus on police ethics to commence.