



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

**Lancashire Constabulary and the Office of the Police
and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire**

**Internal Audit Service - Monitoring report for the
period ended 31 May 2022**

1 Introduction

Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The Joint Audit and Ethics Committee approved the Combined Internal Audit Plan for 2022/23 in March 2022. This report details the progress to date in undertaking the agreed coverage and highlights any significant issues from the audit work performed in this period.
- 1.2 This report covers the period 1 April 2022 to 31 May 2022.

2 Internal audit work undertaken

- 2.1 To date, 3 days have been spent delivering items within the 2022/23 audit plan. This is primarily time spent on finalising the JAEC committee reports and scheduling the 2022/23 audit programme.
- 2.2 No individual 2022/23 audit assignments have been scheduled for completion to date as audit activity has focused on completion of the 2021/22 plan items and composition of the Annual Report of the Head of Internal Audit for 2021/22.
- 2.3 Time spent between 1 April 2022 and 31 May 2022 in completing assignments from the 2021/22 audit programme, have been accounted for within the 2021/22 Annual Report.
- 2.4 The table at Appendix 1 below provides a summary of the assignments that comprise the 2022/23 audit plan alongside proposed audit dates for key audit deliverables. The table at Appendix 2 then identifies the follow up audit activity to be performed during 2022/23.

Key audit dates

Appendix 1

Audit review	Days	Proposed dates			
		Fieldwork Start	Draft report issued	Final report issued	JAEC reporting date
Accounts Payable	10	Mid/ late January	Mid-February	End of February	March 23
Accounts Receivable	10	Mid/ late January	Mid-February	End of February	March 23
General Ledger	7	Mid/ late January	Mid-February	End of February	March 23
LCC/ Constabulary data transfer	N/A	Early October	End of October	Mid November	December 22
Treasury Management	4	Mid/ End of October	Mid-November	End of November	December 22
Pension Fund assurance	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	June 23
Payroll	13	Mid-February	End of February	Mid-March	June 23
Governance and decision making	12	Early January	Mid-February	End of February	March 23
Risk management	10	Early January	Mid-February	End of February	March 23
Audit and Assurance activity	8	Early January	Mid-February	End of February	March 23
Health and Safety	20	End of August/September	End of September	Mid-October	December 22
Contract monitoring	20	End of June	Early August	Mid-August	September 22
Insourced catering contract	10	<i>Dates still to be agreed by the Constabulary</i>			
Violence Reduction Network	20	End of September	End of October	Mid November	December 22
Data Quality	15	<i>Dates still to be agreed by the Constabulary</i>			
Public/ Partnership engagement	10	End of November	Mid-January	End of January	March 23

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Audit review	Days	Proposed dates			
		Fieldwork Start	Draft report issued	Final report issued	JAEC reporting date
Follow up audits	18	Refer Appendix 2			Various
Management activity	10	Progresses throughout the course of the year			All
National Fraud Initiative	2	Data specifications will be issued to participating bodies at the end of July; data is extracted and uploaded to the NFI web application during October and November; matches will be issued from the end of January 23.			March 23
	200				

Follow up audit activity

Appendix 2

Audit review	Date of original audit	Assurance opinion	Actions agreed		Proposed date of follow up audit	JAEC reporting date
			Medium risk	Low risk		
Complaint reviews	September 21	Substantial	2	2	July 22	September 22
Addressing Covid risks	August 21	Moderate	2	1	July 22	September 22
Management of the ICV Scheme	May 22	Substantial	1	2	October 22	December 22
CCTV	May 22	Moderate	3	1	March 23	June 23
Premises compliance	September 21	Limited	6	1	July 22	September 22
Mental Health	May 22	Substantial	1	2	March 23	June 23
Child Sexual Exploitation	May 22	Moderate	3	1	February 23	March 23
Public Engagement processes	May 22	Substantial	1	4	October 22	December 22
Neighbourhood Policing	January 22	Moderate	2	5	October 22	December 22
Accounts Payable	November 21	Substantial	0	2	January 23	March 23
General Ledger	November 21	Substantial	0	2	January 23	March 23
Payroll	November 21	Substantial	0	1	February 23	June 23
Total actions			21	24		

Audit assurance levels and risk ratings

Appendix 3

For 2022/23 the following audit assurance levels apply:

<p>Substantial assurance: the framework of control is adequately designed and/ or effectively operated overall.</p>
<p>Moderate assurance: the framework of control is adequately designed and/ or effectively operated overall, but some action is required to enhance aspects of it and/ or ensure that it is effectively operated throughout the service, system or process.</p>
<p>Limited assurance: there are some significant weaknesses in the design and/ or operation of the framework of control that put the achievement of the service, system or process' objectives at risk.</p>
<p>No assurance: there are some fundamental weaknesses in the design and/ or operation of the framework of control that could result in failure to achieve the service, system or process' objectives.</p>

We categorise the issues we raise in the context of the residual risk to which the Constabulary and/ or the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner are exposed. Actions agreed in our reports are therefore defined as 'extreme', 'high', 'medium' or 'low' in relation to the residual risk they are designed to address and fall into the following categories:

<p>Extreme residual risk: critical and urgent in that failure to address the risk could lead to one or more of the following: catastrophic loss of services, loss of life, significant environmental damage or significant financial loss, with related national press coverage and substantial damage to the Constabulary's and/ or the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's reputations.</p>
<p>High residual risk: critical in that failure to address the issue or progress the work would lead to one or more of the following: failure to achieve organisational objectives, significant disruption to business or to service users, significant financial loss, inefficient use of resources, failure to comply with law or regulations, or damage to the Constabulary's and/ or the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's reputations.</p>
<p>Medium residual risk: failure to address the issue or progress the work could impact on operational objectives and should be of concern to senior management.</p>
<p>Low residual risk: matters that individually have no major impact on achieving the service's objectives, but where combined with others could give cause for concern.</p>