CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 12
19 June 2014	Public Report

Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Contact Officer(s) – Dorothy Gregson Contact Details – <u>cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk</u> 0300 333 3456

DECISIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This report is being presented to the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel to enable it to review or scrutinise decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner under Section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to indicate whether it would wish to further review and scrutinise the decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner. In these circumstances further information would be provided for a future meeting.
- 2.2 The Panel is asked to note the key decisions to be taken by the Commissioner during the forthcoming period and the context for these decisions.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.1 Item 6, To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 This report is presented to enable the Panel to carry out its functions as noted in paragraph 3. The Panel is required to review or scrutinise decisions made, it is also required to support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 The following decisions taken by the Commissioner have been notified to the Panel:

Date	Decision Record	Decision Summary
01/04/2014	CPCC 2014-009	To approve the signing of a Section 22A agreement to create a resource to act as the link between the six Police and Crime Commissioner offices in the Eastern Region who are working on the victims' agenda.
25/03/2014	CPCC 2014-010	To approve the scheme of governance and the Financial Regulations and associated amendments for implementation on 1 April 2014.

25/03/2014	CPCC 2014-011	To approve the freehold disposal of Papworth Police Station on an unconditional basis to the Abbey Group for £220,000.
25/03/2014	CPCC 2014-012	To approve the transfer of a 1.5m strip of land via a Deed of dedication to Cambridgeshire County Council.
16/04/2014	CPCC 2014-013	To accept the grant agreement and grant to the value of £454,395 from the Ministry of Justice.
29/04/2014	CPCC 2014-014	To approve the three year continuation of the lease of Operational Planning Support Unit (OPSU) on Alconbury Airfield.
01/05/2014	CPCC 2014-015	To approve the current interim OPCC Head of Finance to act into the post of Interim Chief Finance Officer (with associated section 151 responsibility and duties) until the substantive appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner Director of Finance.

- 5.2 The relevant decision records are attached at Appendix 1.
- 5.3 If the Panel wishes to scrutinise these decisions, further details can be provided for the next meeting.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Subject to the Panel's need for further information or scrutiny on any of the decisions above, it may be required that further information is submitted to a future meeting of the Panel.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The decisions are in line with the direction set in the Police and Crime Plan. These decision records have been placed on the Commissioner's website.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The Panel members may request further information about the decisions detailed above.
- 8.2 Future decisions to be taken by the Commissioner will continue to be notified to the Panel. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced a number of statutory decisions to be taken by the Commissioner. Key decisions to 31 March 2015 include:
 - Any variation to the Police and Crime Plan must be sent to the Police and Crime Panel to review
 - Any collaboration agreements
 - Update to the Financial Regulations

- Appointment of Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer, to be notified to the Panel for a confirmation hearing to be held
- ^{8.3} These statutory decisions of the Commissioner also require a range of supporting decisions for the Commissioner and his staff including:
 - Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014-18
 - Governance framework 2014-15
 - Annual Governance Statement 2013-14.
- 8.4 These decisions will be taken against a challenging financial context, for the Commissioner and Constabulary, but also for key partners. All parties are faced with considering how the budget gaps can be bridged to make best use of available funding. The Commissioner has pledged to give priority to frontline and as much visible policing as possible.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 Decisions records and background papers detailed at Appendix 1.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1 - Decision records.

Appendix 1



CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISION RECORD – CPCC 2014-009		
Subject	Section 22A – Eastern Regions Victims Post	
Decision	To approve the signing of a Section 22A agreement to create a post to act as the link between the six Police and Crime Commissioner offices in the Eastern Region.	
Decision Summary	Commissioners from the six regions have committed to work together to ensure there is a smooth transition from local to national commissioning of victims services. This will ensure that the budgets and resources available to support victims of crime are used as efficiently and effectively as possible.	

Contact Officer	Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive	
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	Email: dorothy.gregson@cambs.pnn.police.uk	
Background	Regional Victims Commissioning paper to the 25 March 2014 BCB.	
Papers		

I confirm that I	have reached the above decision after	er consideration of the facts above.
Signature	(/ 5	Date 1/4/2014
	4.1)	

From: Chief Executive

Date: March 25 2014

REGIONAL VICTIMS COMMISSIONING

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Board of the progress made by the Eastern Region Victims Commissioning Group to secure the smooth transition from national to local commissioning of victims services.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board approves the signing of a Section 22 agreement to create a post to act as the link between the six Police and Crime Commissioner offices in the Eastern Region to ensure: budgets and resources available to support victims of crime are used as efficiently and effectively as possible and there is a smooth transition from national to local commissioning.

3. Background

- 3.1 In October 2014 the responsibility for commissioning initial support for victims of crime will pass to Police and Crime Commissioners.
- 3.2 Commissioners from the six regions committed to work together on this transition at the Eastern Region meeting in January 2014 and approved the creation of an Eastern Region Victims Commissioning Group. This group agreed to undertake a strategic options analysis, including risks, benefits and costs in relation to models of regional collaboration and commissioning, and use this to inform the development of an action plan, to be signed off by the Regional Alliance.
- 3.3 In taking this forward, it was proposed that each Commissioner pools a small amount of their 2013/14 Preparatory Capacity and Capability Fund for Victims to employ an Eastern Region Victims Services Co-ordinator/Senior Project Manager. The post holder will support the work of the working group and implementation of the action plan. It is estimated that this will cost up to £10k per county. A twin track recruitment approach has been taken looking for both individuals on a 12 month secondment and agencies interested in

completing this project. The final decision will be made based on both the quality of applications and anticipated value for money.

- 3.4 The successful post holder/agency will also ensure that the rest of region learn from Cambridgeshire's experience as an 'early adopter' providing victim referral mechanisms locally through a Victims' Hub from October 2014. The rest of the region will remain within the MoJ national Victim Support funding extension until April 2015.
- 3.5 It is also anticipated that this post holder will feed into the national Victims Working Group (comprising of Kevin Hurley, Alun Michael and Dorothy Gregson) to support effective transition. The group represents PCCs on the victims commissioning programme, influencing the MoJ's planned work including the commissioning of national services and wider policies that affect the victims' journey. The group also raises emerging issues with the MoJ on behalf of PCCs, helps to plan the devolution of funding for victims' services, and engages with Victim Support on relevant issues.

4. Recommendation

4.1 The Board approves the signing of a Section 22 agreement to create a post to act as the link between the six Police and Crime Commissioner offices in the Eastern Region to ensure: budgets and resources available to support victims of crime are used as efficiently and effectively as possible and there is a smooth transition from national to local commissioning.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document (s)	Contact Officer	Location
Eastern Region Victims Services Co- ordinator/Senior Project Manager – Policing Body Collaborative Service Agreement	Strategic Advisor Nicky Phillipson	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA



Subject	Scheme of Governance and Financial Regulations
Decision	To approve the scheme of governance and the Financial Regulations and associated amendments for implementation on 1 April 2014.
Decision Summary	As a result of stage 2 transfers and certain responsibilities being transferred to the respective constabulary chief constables, the current scheme of governance is required to be updated for the 1st April 2014 to reflect the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioners, Chief Constable and Chief Officers, as well as the consents (giving of authority) to the chief constable by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Contact Officer	Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive Tel: 0300 333 3456
	Email: dorothy.gregson@cambs.pnn.police.uk
Background	Scheme of Governance as presented to 25 March 201 BCB
Papers	Financial Regulations – as presented to 25 March 2014 BCB

I confirm that I ha	ve reached the above decision after c	onsideration of the facts above.
Signature	0.51	Date

Please click the links below for the background documents.

Scheme of Governance: <u>http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/14-03-25-BCB-Agenda-Item-7-Governance-Framework.pdf</u>

Financial Regulations: <u>http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2014/04/14-03-25-BCB-Agenda-Item-7-Governance-Framework-</u> <u>Financial-Regs.pdf</u>



Subject	Papworth Police Station Site – Freehold Disposal
Decision	To approve the freehold disposal of Papworth Police Station Site on an unconditional basis to the Abbey Group for £220,000.
Decision Summary	 The site has been vacant since September 2010 with Finance and Resources committee formally approving the sale of the site in September 2011. A full planning application for a residential scheme was submitted with a view to releasing the best value for the site on eventual sale (estimated at between £120,000 and £200,000). The planning application is as yet undetermined due to on-going highways/access and affordable housing issues. In February 2014 the Estates Department commissioned an independent valuation report which concluded that the best alternative commercial use for the site is for a small convenience store supporting a site value of around £165,000. Abbey Group (Cambridgeshire) Ltd approached Estates with 2 offers: £250,000 - conditional and not subject to planning permission. £250,000 - Conditional on receiving planning consent for a convenience store. Option 1 is the preferred option given the uncertainty over the likelihood of securing planning consent for an alternative use, alongside the benefits of a quick sale releasing us from the liability of on-going revenue costs. It also demonstrates best value for the site.
Contact Of	ficer Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive Tel: 0300 333 3456

Sir Graham Brig	ght, Cambridgeshire Police and Cri	me Commissioner
I confirm that I	have reached the above decision a	fter consideration of the facts above.
Signature	CZ	Date
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Papworth Police Station Site – paper to 25 March 2014 BCB

Background Papers

From: Chief Constable

Date: 25 March 2014

PAPWORTH POLICE STATION SITE

1. Purpose

1.1 To seek approval to the freehold disposal of Papworth Police Station site.

2. Background

- 2.1 This property has been vacant since September 2010 when the beat office relocated to Cambourne Police Station. It was originally considered that the site would lend itself to residential use given the location and surrounding uses.
- 2.2 Finance and Resources Committee formally approved the proposed sale of the site on 22nd September 2011 following consultation with County, Parish and District Councillors.
- 2.3 Local estate agents and planning consultants were subsequently instructed to draw up a residential scheme for the site which was submitted to SCDC for full planning consent with a view to releasing the best value of the site on eventual sale.
- 2.4 The application is as yet undetermined and has a protracted history due to a combination of issues including affordable housing, access/highways and design.
- 2.5 The design element has been satisfactorily altered but the other issues remain unresolved.
- 2.6 To reconfigure the traffic calming and access arrangements to satisfy the planning process would involve significant expenditure (estimated at a minimum of £10,000). For the affordable housing element, SCDCs required

adjustments to our viability report which could impact significantly on the potential capital receipt.

- 2.7 The unencumbered residential site value was originally estimated at around £200,000. In addition, in order to test our viability appraisal, SCDC commissioned a report which estimated the current residential site value at £120,000. This is considered to be a very modest valuation.
- 2.8 Given the difficulties with the planning application, an independent valuation report was sought by Estates on alternative commercial use for the site. This concluded that the best alternative use is for a small convenience store supporting a site value of around £165,000.
- 2.9 Estates are in receipt of 2 offers (subject to contract) from the Abbey Group (Cambridgeshire) Ltd who are interested in the acquisition of the site for a convenience store. These are summarised as follows:
 - The first offer is unconditional and not subject to any planning permission. This offer is £220,000 (two hundred and twenty thousand pounds).
 - The second offer is conditional upon receiving planning permission for a convenience store. This offer is £250,000 (two hundred and fifty thousand pounds).
- 2.10 It should be noted that the average annual revenue costs associated with holding this vacant site is in the region of around £6,000.
- 2.11 Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that Local Authorities are not permitted to dispose of land or grant leases in excess of 7 years for a consideration which is less than the best which is reasonably obtainable, unless they obtain consent from the Secretary of State or comply with the 2003 dispensations. The valuation evidence demonstrates that the offers from the Abbey Group achieve best consideration and that there are no compliance issues.

3. Summary

- 3.1 Following approval to dispose of the site in September 2011 planning options have been considered and evaluated and an offer to purchase the freehold received.
- 3.2 The conditional offer of £250,000 carries significant uncertainty over timescales for the purchaser to secure planning consent for a convenience store (given the protracted nature of the existing application for residential use).

3.3 The unconditional offer of £220,000 represents best value for the site as it removes planning and highway uncertainties and allows the sale to proceed without delay. It also removes the liability of on-going revenue costs and the potential problems associated with the ownership of vacant property. In addition, the resolution and cost of highways/access requirements would fall to the purchaser. This option presents a freehold disposal compliant with s123 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4. Recommendation

4.1 It is recommended to proceed with the unconditional offer of £220,000 from the Abbey Group.

Bibliography

Source Document(s)	Contact Officer	Location
Estate Management –	Colin Luscombe (Head of	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Property Files	Estates & FM) or Elly	
	McKee(Estates	
	Management Surveyor)	



Subject	March Police Station: Transfer of 1.5m strip of land	
Decision	To approve the transfer of a 1.5m strip of land via a Deed of dedication to Cambridgeshire County Council	
Decision Summary	 Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) wish to make highways/footway improvements around the various vehicular entrances onto City Road thereby easing movement for pedestrians including wheelchair users. This requires the transfer of a 1.5 m strip of land from the police station car park (fronting onto City Road). CCC has agreed to make a compensatory payment of £2,000 as well as carrying out alterations and improvements to the Police car park and payment of legal fees. 	

Contact Officer	Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive
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Background	March Police Station: Transfer of 1.5m strip of land – paper to 25 March 2014 BCE
Papers	

I confirm that I hav	re reached the above decision afte	r consideration of the facts above.
Signature	(5)	Date 25th March 2516
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From: Chief Constable

Date: 25 March 2014

MARCH POLICE STATION: TRANSFER OF 1.5M STRIP OF LAND

1. Purpose

1.1 To seek formal approval to the transfer of a small strip of land to Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) for highways/footway improvements.

2. Background

2.1 CCC wish to provide a new footway adjacent to March Police station car park, in the area shown shaded on the plan below, which is within the freehold ownership of the Police and Crime Commissioner.



- 2.2 It is anticipated that this work will connect the footways around the various entrances in the locality easing movement for pedestrians including wheelchair users.
- 2.3 The following terms have been agreed without prejudice with CCC:
 - Transfer of the 1.5m strip of land fronting police station car park via Deed of Dedication (total approx.30 sq m).
 - Setting back of existing car park space into grassed area to retain full parking space (to same standard and finish as remainder of car park).
 - Mark up retained car park with white lining to demarcate parking spaces.
 - Installation of footway edging kerbs (or white lining) to show demarcation of footway.
 - Compensatory payment of £2,000 for loss of land.
 - CCC to pay all legal fees.
- 2.4 This proposal was considered by the Estates Sub Group on 13th March 2014 and subsequently referred to Business Coordination Board.

3 Summary

3.1 This transfer will facilitate footway and car park improvements for the public in general and the Police respectively as well as securing a small capital receipt.

4. Recommendation

4.1 To approve the transfer of a 1.5m strip of land via a Deed of Dedication to Cambridgeshire County Council.

Bibliography

Source Document(s)	Contact Officer	Location
Estate Management -	Colin Luscombe (Head of	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Property Files	Estates & FM) or Elly	
	McKee(Estates	
	Management Surveyor)	



CAP	MBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISION RECORD – CPCC 2014- OI3		
Subject	Grant funding in relation to local commissioning of victims support services (including restorative justice service) To accept the grant agreement and grant to the value of £454,395 from the Ministry of Justice.		
Decision			
Decision Summary	 From October 2014 the commissioning of Victims support services will be transferring to the Police and Crime Commissioners. To enable the commissioning the Ministry of Justice is providing a grant of £454,395, which is 6 months funding for Victims Services, Restorative Justice and Sexual Violence/Domestic Violence. This grant funding is to cover spend in relation the commissioning and provision of: Services for victims of crime and particularly victims in the priority categories outlined in the Victims' Code: victims of the most serious crime, persistently targeted victims, and vulnerable or intimidated victims, to help them cope with the immediate impacts of crime and, as far as possible, recover from the harm they have experienced. Services for victims of sexual and/or domestic violence. 		
	 Directive). Any associated costs that arise in the process of commissioning/provision of victims' services. 		
Contact Of	ficer Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive Tel: 0300 333 3456 Email: <u>dorothy.gregson@cambs.pnn.police.uk</u>		
Backgroun	d The Ministry of Justice Grant agreement dated 5 th April 2014.		

Sir Graham Brig	ht, Cambridgeshire Po lice and C	ime Commissioner
I confirm that I h	ave reached the above decision	after consideration of the facts above.
Signature	Land	Date 16 4 14

Papers



CAM	BRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISION RECORD - CPCC 2014-014
Subject	Lease Renewal Building 200/201 Alconbury Airfield
Decision	To approve the three year continuation of the lease of Operational Planning Support Unit (OPSU) on Alconbury Airfield.
(OPSU) on Alconbury Airfield. Decision Summary The main heads of terms for the cur Civic are outlined below (and are substance) • Term: 3 years from 1 April 2014 • Landlord: Urban & Civic Alconbury • Tenant: Office of the Police and Crim • Lease: 3 year term contracted out of • Break clause: 3 month break clause • Rent: £12,500 per annum • Repairs & Insurance: Tenant responder • Service Charge: No service charge with the servic	 Landlord: Urban & Civic Alconbury Tenant: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire. Lease: 3 year term contracted out of the '1954 Act' (no security of tenure) Break clause: 3 month break clause by either party at any time. Rent: £12,500 per annum Repairs & Insurance: Tenant responsibility. Service Charge: No service charge will apply. User Clause: Use of the Property for Police Training.
	This proposal has been considered and approved by FEB on 1 April 2014.

Contact Officer	Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive
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Background	Operational Planning Support Unit: Buildings 200/201 Alconbury Airfield.
Papers	

Sir Graham Br	ight, Cambridgeshire Police and C	Crime Commissioner
I confirm that	I have reached the above decision	after consideration of the facts above.
Signature	455	Date 29/04/2014
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To: Sir Graham – Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire

From: Colin Luscombe – Director of Estates OPCC

Date: 29 April 2014

Operational Planning Support Unit: Buildings 200/201 Alconbury Airfield

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To seek approval to renew the lease of Building 200/201 Alconbury Airfield for continued use by the Operational Planning Support Unit (OPSU).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 This property was first occupied by the Force in March 2005 under a 3 year lease at an initial rent of £10,000 per annum. The premises were taken on as a shell and significant fitting out works were carried out by the police prior to occupation.
- 2.2 Due to the long term redevelopment plans for the Airfield the Landlords (initially Alconbury Developments, now Urban & Civic) introduced a general policy of granting a maximum lease term of 3 years with no security of tenure. This is coupled with a standard landlords break clause giving 3 months' notice at any time (sometimes after the first year of the term). This provides them with flexibility to secure vacant possession if/when required. There are no immediate plans for the redevelopment of the site of this building.
- 2.3 Lease renewals have been implemented 3 yearly as required.
- 2.4 Main heads of terms for the current lease renewal as agreed with Urban & Civic are outlined below:
 - Landlord: Urban & Civic Alconbury
 - Tenant: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire.
 - Demise: Buildings 200/201 Alconbury Airfield and associated external areas (as existing).

- Term: 3 years from 1 April 2014 contracted out of the '1954 Act' (no security of tenure).
- Rent: £12,500 per annum including maintenance charge for external/communal areas.
- Repairs/Insurance: Tenant responsible for all repairs and insurance.
- Use: Police Training.
- Break Clause: Either party has the option to break on 3 month's notice at any time.
- Each party to bear their own legal costs incurred in the preparation of the new lease.

3.0 Summary

- 3.1 This is an opportunity to continue to occupy training/exercise facilities at a reasonable cost and in an accessible location.
- 3.2 Chief Superintendent Mike Colbourne (1090 Beds) has confirmed the on-going requirement for this facility.
- 3.3 On the 1st April 2014 the Force Executive Board confirmed the continued requirement for 200/201 Alconbury Airfield and supported an OPCC Decision Notice to take a further 3 year lease from 1 April 2014 on the basis of the main terms outlined in 2.4 above.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 The PCC is asked to approve a further 3 year lease from 1 April 2014 at a rent of £12,500pa.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document (s)	Contact Officer	Location
Estate Management – Property Files	Colin Luscombe (Director of Estates) or Elly McKee (Estates Management Surveyor) 01480 422679 (CL) or 01480 422423 (EM)	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA



Subject	Police and Crime Commissioner Chief Finance Officer
Decision	To approve the current interim OPCC Head of Finance to act into the post of Interim Chief Finance Officer (with associated section 151 responsibility and duties) until the substantive appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner Director of Finance. This is subject to agreement of the Business Co Ordination Board on 8 th May 2014.
Decision Summary	The Chief Finance Officer is a permanent established post within the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Office, undertaken by a member of the PCC Office team. The position became vacated on 30th September 2014. At this time Niki Howard, the Director of Resources for the Chief Constable agreed to undertake the role and responsibilities of the PCC CFO until a suitable replacement was appointed.
	It is important that both the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable have access to independent advice and the Police and Crime Commissioner retains the Chief Finance Officer as an established position within his office. Therefore this would keep the roles of the Chief Finance Officer for the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Finance Officer (Director of Resources) for the Chief Constable separate, as is implied in both the Police RSRA 2011 and CIPFA statement on "the role of the chief financial officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Finance Officer of the Chief Constable".

Contact Officer	Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive Tel: 0300 333 3456 Email: <u>dorothy.gregson@cambs.pnn.police.uk</u>
Background Papers	CFO Position for BCB 08-05-14 report

Sir Graham Bright, Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner I confirm that I have reached the above decision after consideration of the facts above.		

From: Chief Executive

Date: 08 May 2014

THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER POSITION

1. Recommendation

1.1 The current interim OPCC Head of Finance to act into the post of Interim Chief Finance Officer (with associated section 151 responsibility and duties) until the substantive appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner Director of Finance.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (PRSRA) 2011 under paragraph 6 of Schedule 1 requires every PCC outside London to appoint a CFO. An identical duty under paragraph 4 of Schedule 2 and paragraph 1 of Schedule 4 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Chief Constable is also required to appoint a CFO. The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires both CFOs to comply with relevant provisions within the Local Government Acts.
- 2.2 Since Sir Graham Bright took office on 22nd November the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) for the Police and Crime Commissioner has been a permanent established post within the PCC Office, undertaken by a member of the PCC Office team. The position became vacated on 30th September 2014. At this time Niki Howard, the Director of Resources for the Chief Constable agreed to undertake the role and responsibilities of the PCC CFO until a suitable replacement was appointed.
- 2.3 After an initial attempt to fill the position on a permanent basis proved unsuccessful, the Police and Crime Commissioner is undertaking a second recruitment round to find a suitable permanent appointment.

2.4 A recent HMIC Valuing the Police Inspection identified a need to bring to an end the period in which the Director of Resources also undertakes the Chief Finance Officer function for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

3 Current Position and Proposed interim arrangements

- 3.1 An interim Head of Finance was appointed to the Police and Crime Commissioners Office on 3rd February 2014. The main function was to develop a common Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Scheme of Governance, provide support to the PCC, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer and to provide advice and guidance as appropriate whilst allowing the dual role of Director of Resources for the Chief Constable/Chief Finance Officer for the Police and Crime Commissioner to continue.
- 3.2 The appointee (Robert Vickers) is a CIPFA qualified accountant, with significant post qualification experience and previous experience working in the Police and Crime Commissioner environment, having occupied the Chief Finance Officer Role at Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner during his last assignment.
- 3.3 It is important that both the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable have access to independent advice and the Police and Crime Commissioner retains the Chief Finance Officer as an established position within his office. Therefore this would keep the roles of the Chief Finance Officer for the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Finance Officer (Director of Resources) for the Chief Constable separate, as is implied in both the PRSRA 2011 and CIPFA statement on "the role of the chief financial officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Finance Officer of the Chief Constable".
- 3.4 It is proposed that the responsibilities and duties of the Chief Finance Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner are transferred to Robert Vickers, with effect from 8th May 2014.

4 Recommendation

4.1 The current interim OPCC Head of Finance to act into the post of Interim Chief Finance Officer (with associated section 151 responsibility and duties) until the substantive appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner Director of Finance.