



## Resources Committee

Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 18 December 2024 on Webex

Authority Members present	Grant Macrae (Chair) Paul Edie (Item 7.1.1 only) Tom Halpin Alasdair Hay Pauline Howie Angela Leitch Caroline Stuart
Authority Member apologies	Nil
In attendance	<b>SPA</b> Chris Brown, Deputy Chief Executive John McNellis, Head of Finance, Audit and Risk Scott Ross, Head of Change & Operational Scrutiny  Deborah Christie, Governance Support Officer  <b>Police Scotland</b> ACC Emma Bond, Assistant Chief Constable Lynn Brown, Head of Corporate Finance Patrick Brown, Head of Finance DCC Jane Connors, Deputy Chief Constable James Gray, Chief Financial Officer Andrew Hendry, Chief Digital & Information Officer Brian Kyle, Strategic Procurement Manager ACC Tim Mairs, Assistant Chief Constable Colin Maciver, Head of Portfolio Delivery - Change

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	<p><b>SPA Forensic Services</b> Sam Curran, Head of Function Fiona Douglas, Director of Forensic Services</p> <p><b>HMICS</b> Alan Wright</p>
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**1.1 WELCOME**

Grant Macrae, Committee Chair welcomed attendees from the Authority, Police Scotland and HMICS.

**1.2 APOLOGIES**

There were no Member apologies.

**1.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTREST AND CONNECTIONS**

There were no declarations of interest or connections.

**1.4 DECISIONS ON TAKING BUSINESS IN PRIVATE (ITEMS 4 - 7)**

In accordance with paragraph 20 of the SPA Standing Orders, the Committee agreed to consider items 4 - 7 on the agenda in private.

**1.5 DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE**

There has been no business considered since the last meeting of the Committee.

**2.1 RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTE FROM MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2024 FOR APPROVAL**

Members agreed the Minute from the Resources Committee held on held on 19 November 2024 was an accurate record of the meeting.

**2.2 RESOURCES COMMITTEE ACTION LOG AND MATTERS ARISING**

Members noted the Action Log updates and the actions proposed for closure.

There were no matters arising.

**3.1 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT P7 2024/25 – LYNN BROWN**

Members considered the report which provided an update on the financial position of the SPA and Police Scotland for period 7 of the financial year 2024/25. During discussion and in addition to the written report the following points were noted and discussed.

- The committee considered an overview of Appendix A and the updates provided on revenue, capital and reform budgets.
- A balanced revenue outturn remains forecast; it was explained there remain significant risks and challenges to achieving this and

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- the overall position remains very challenging.
- In response to a question about the ongoing Pay Award negotiations, the Committee heard that the biggest risk is in relation to the Pay Award. The headline pay award offered (4.75%) is higher than budget and the committee heard from the Chief Financial Officer this is on the absolute outer limits of affordability. It was noted that the result of the Police Officer pay arbitration will be pivotal in delivering a balanced budget.
  - Members noted the forecast balanced capital outturn however the significant delivery risks are a concern for the committee.
  - Regarding the P8 Capital total contracted spend this is now at £31m ~45% of the forecast. Significant spend is required in the final quarter of the financial year and the committee was keen to understand the measures in place to make sure this happens. It was explained that the situation is being very closely monitored and overprogramming of up to £22m has been approved to mitigate the risk of any slippage. The Committee welcomed this assurance of robust arrangements to support a sound programme approach and good discipline around project management.
  - DCC Connors assured Members there was work underway to achieve greater grip over delivery of each part of the capital programme and that this was being driven at pace across the organisation.
  - Members explored the arrangements in place to hold budget holders to account and to ensure there was a good understanding of where responsibility for delivery lay. The Chief Financial officer explained that the levels of accountability/responsibility were clearly set out in internal governance documents and there is robust sign off arrangements in place to support this.
  - An area of focus for this Committee will continue to be the effectiveness of the internal processes and controls to ensure robust budget management and to provide assurance in respect of how budget holders are held to account for delivery. The Chief Financial Officer agreed to bring a report to a future meeting which would provide details of these arrangements.

**Members noted the report and agreed the following action:**

**RES-20241218-001: Opportunity to be arranged to give Members understanding of the established processes and controls to ensure robust budget management and to provide assurance in respect of how budget holders are held to account for delivery.**

*The following items were taken in private.*

*End.*

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