



GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK (1)

STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 2017

Chief Executive
(and Monitoring Officer)

1 January 2017

STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE FOR THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Governance is about a body putting in place proper arrangements for the conduct of its affairs and facilitating the proper exercise of its functions. It comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the body is directed and controlled. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Chief Constable are each a corporation sole that operate under a Governance Framework. The Framework sets out the principles, structures, and processes that will be adhered to in the taking of decisions necessary for the PCC and the Chief Constable to fulfil their legal powers and duties as set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Policing Protocol Order 2011.

The PCC

1.2 The PCC, as a corporation sole, is amongst other things, responsible for ensuring that the Governance Framework secures an effective and efficient policing service in Suffolk. The PCC does this by holding the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of his functions. The PCC in doing this is open and transparent and acts in accordance with the principles of good governance and by adhering to the Nolan Principles relating to standards of behaviour in public life.

The Chief Constable

1.3 The Chief Constable as a corporation sole, in leading the Suffolk Constabulary, is responsible for corporate governance issues affecting the Force.

2. PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

2.1 The purpose of this statement of corporate governance is to define the PCC's and Chief Constable's approach to governance by:

- outlining the statutory framework in which the two corporations sole operate;
- outlining the good governance principles adopted by the two corporations sole; and
- outlining the overarching governance framework by which the two corporations sole will be governed.

3. STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

3.1 The main statutory instruments and associated documents under which the two corporations sole operate are:

- The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011;
- The Policing Protocol Order 2011;
- The Financial Management Code of Practice;
- The Strategic Policing Requirement;
- The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 (as amended).

4. **GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES**

4.1 The CIPFA (Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy) Framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government' Guidance Note for Policing Bodies in England and Wales 2016 edition sets out seven principles of good governance on which effective governance should be built. These are:

- behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law;
- ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement;
- defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits;
- determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes;
- developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it;
- managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management;
- implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability.

5. **GOOD GOVERNANCE**

5.1 The corporate governance framework sets out the principles, structures and processes by which the corporations sole are governed and consist of a:

- Statement of Corporate Governance

This identifies the statutory framework, the good governance principles and the governance framework to provide clarity on the way in which the two corporations sole operate and are governed.

- Code of Corporate Governance

Each corporation sole has a code of corporate governance which identifies the key enablers to deliver the good governance principles.

- Scheme of Governance and Consent

The Scheme defines the parameters within which the two corporations sole conduct their business and comprises a number of sections;

- Introduction, legislative outline and general principles;
- Key roles of the PCC and Chief Constable;
- Delegations by the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- Delegations by the Chief Constable;
- Financial Regulations;
- Contract Standing Orders;
- Decision-Making and Accountability Framework;
- Arrangements between PCC and Chief Constable.

Where appropriate the Scheme highlights the protocol, policy and procedure for each corporation sole and their arrangements for acting jointly.

6. **ASSURANCE**

The Audit Committee

- 6.1 The Audit Committee is a key component of the two corporations sole' corporate governance. It provides an independent and high-level focus on the audit, assurance and reporting arrangements that underpin good governance and financial standards.

Annual Governance Statements

- 6.2 The two corporations sole are each required to prepare an annual governance statement. This enables them to report publicly on the extent to which they comply with their own code of corporate governance on an annual basis and which in turn is consistent with the good governance principles.

Christopher Jackson
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