

JOINT AUDIT PANEL

Date: Wednesday 26th November 2025

Time: 12:00 – 12:30

Venue: Online

Peter Morris (Chair)
John Starkey (Panel member)
Foluke Fajumi (Panel member)

Chief Constable Stephen Watson (GMP)
Chief Resources Officer (CRO) Lee Rawlinson (GMP) (online)
Chief Finance Officer (CFO) Ian Cosh (GMP)
Lindsey Ashworth (GMP - Assistant Director of Finance)
Jerry Faulkner (GMP - Assistant Director of Finance)
Theresa Mahoney (GMP - Finance Business Manager)
Hannah Gamage (GMP – Strategic Planning, Policy and Governance)

Lindsey Keech (GMCA - Head of Finance)

Cath Folan (Head of Internal Audit – Police & Crime)

Karen Murray (Forvis Mazars - Director (Public and Social Sector))
Jimly Johny (Forvis Mazars – Engagement Assistant Manager)

Apologies Claire Postlethwaite (GMCA – Director of Operational Finance)
Steve Wilson (GMCA – Treasurer)
Ian Cayton (Panel member)

M461/JAP Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

M462/JAP GMP – Auditor’s Annual Report 24-25 – draft

Karen Murray presented the item, outlining that it was a draft report, as it is awaiting the accounts sign off. Following this, a final report will be sent before the end of the month for publication by the deadline of the end of November 2025.

No weaknesses were identified in the accounts and the auditor will issue an unqualified opinion. The report indicated that there are no significant weaknesses in the arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

A letter from a member of public regarding crime recording had been sent through to Forvis Mazars, this had been noted in the report as a record of the how this was managed.

The Panel noted the report and the auditor's opinion on the accounts.

M463/JAP GMP – Audit Completion Report 24-25 – final – signed

This was presented before item 2.

Karen presented the item as the Audit Completion Report for the findings from the financial statement, explaining that the work is complete, and the team aimed to provide a signed opinion before the end of November 2025.

Thanks and appreciation were provided to the Panel and to the members of the Finance Branch who had assisted with the work.