

**Devon and Cornwall Full Police Authority Meeting
15th February 2006**

Open for the purposes of FOI

Joint Report of Superintendent ANSELL and the Chief Constable

Risk Management in the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

Recommendation(s):

- (i) **To consider the recommendation from the Corporate Governance held on 14 February where the approval of the new Joint Integrated Risk Management Strategy & Policy of the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary and the Authority, and support for its introduction to the Full Authority, was considered.**

Introduction / Summary

1. This report updates the Corporate Governance Committee on the progress that has been made by the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary in introducing an integrated Risk Management process. The process is supported by the introduction of a Joint Integrated Risk Management Strategy and Policy, a Corporate Risk Register and the setting of an appropriate corporate risk tolerance level.
2. The process is being fully supported by Officers from the Authority who also sit on the relevant groups within the governance chain; i.e. the Force Risk Management Panel and the Force Risk Review Group. The Strategy and Policy documents under which this activity takes place has been approved by the Force Risk Management Panel and supported to the Force Executive Board, where approval is awaited at the time this paper is submitted. The Strategy and Policy document have been written as Joint documents, inasmuch as they can be applied to either the Authority or the Constabulary, and therefore they need the support of the Corporate Governance Committee before being presented to the full meeting of the Authority. Copies of both documents are attached for reference at Appendix A (the Strategy) and Appendix B (the Policy).

Background Information

3. With the support of the Audit Commission and Devon Audit Services, the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary has sought to introduce a fully defined risk management process for several years. Despite some false starts the Constabulary is able to report that it has achieved a position where such a process is operational.
4. The work undertaken by the Corporate Services Department, supported by both Devon Audit Services and Gallagher Bassett, means that the Strategy and Policy documents submitted for consideration by the Corporate Governance Committee have been consulted on, checked and quality assured, not just internally, but against risk management industry best practice. The consultation exercise has also involved Officers of the Authority.
5. The Strategy and Policy documents have been audited against all relevant criteria including Race & Diversity, Disability, Human Rights, Freedom of Information and the Bureaucracy Gateway. Each

set of audit criteria has been successfully achieved. Moreover the process has been tested and found to be effective.

6. Although each Department and BCU in the Force has established an appropriate risk management process, in accordance with the strategy and policy, some Departments were, for legitimate reasons, unable to submit registers for consideration for inclusion in the corporate register in January 2005. Nonetheless a corporate register was completed and submitted to the Force Executive Board for approval, together with a recommendation on the risk Tolerance level for the Force, on 2nd February 2006. It is inappropriate therefore to comment on the actions of the Executive Board in considering that document and its contents in advance of the meeting.
7. On the basis of the work that has been completed the Constabulary is therefore seeking the support of the Corporate Governance Committee in accepting the appropriate strategy and policy documents and submitting them for the relevant approval of the full Police Authority.

Contact: for further information
Mr Timothy Burton
Senior Business Analyst (Risk), Corporate Services Department
Telephone: 01392 452110
E-mail: Timothy.burton@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk