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Date 26 September 2024

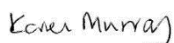
Dear Joint Audit Panel members,

Audit letter – Delay in issuing the Auditor’s Annual Report for 2023/24

The 2020 Code of Audit Practice requires us to issue our Auditor’s Annual Report, which includes our commentary on the Chief Constable’s arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources (our VFM commentary) before 30th September. Where this is not possible, we are required to write to you setting out the reasons for the delay in an ‘audit letter’. For the purposes of compliance with the Code of Audit Practice, this letter constitutes the ‘audit letter’.

We have not yet issued our Auditor’s Annual Report for 2023/24. As a result of the delays in the completion of the 2022/23 audit we have not completed our work on the 2023/24 audit, therefore our Auditor’s Annual Report will not be issued by 30 September 2024. We expect to publish the Auditor’s Annual Report no later than 28 February 2025.

Yours faithfully,


Karen Murray

For and on behalf of Forvis Mazars LLP