



PFCC
POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX

Decision Sheet

Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 107/2017

(Please contact Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for a reference number)

Government security classification . Not protectively marked

Title of report: Appointment of Auditor

Area of County/Stakeholders affected: All

Report by : Mike Clayton, Finance Director & Treasurer

Date of report: 16 November 2017

Enquiries to: Mike Clayton

- 1. Purpose of report**
The report recommends the appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as the Auditor for the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority (the Commissioner).
- 2. Recommendations**
The Auditor Panel of the independent Audit Committee met on 3 November to consider whether to appoint Grant Thornton or seek an appointment from Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd. The paper is attached as Appendix A and sets out the background and factors affecting the decision.
- 3. Benefits and Costs of Proposal**
The proposed fee is £28,880 per annum compared to the previous fee for the Fire Authority of £35,000 per annum.

4. Background and proposal

See Appendix A

5. Strategic Priorities

The appointment is a legal requirement and supports external scrutiny of the Commissioner's governance of the Fire and Rescue Service.

6. Operational Implications

None

7. Financial Implications

The Audit Fee proposed is £28,880 per annum.

8. Legal Implications

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 requires the Commissioner to make the appointment by 31 December 2017.

9. Staffing and other resource implications

(This section should set out any staffing or other resource implications. It needs to demonstrate that the decision complies with relevant employment legislation and / or policies.)

10. Equality and Diversity implications

None

11. Risks

The selection of the Auditor has been carried out independently of the Commissioner in accordance with legislation. The procurement process for the police audit determined the most suitable firm based on a combination of price and quality.

12. Governance Boards

The selection of Grant Thornton UK LLP was agreed by the Auditor Panel of the Audit Committee.

13. Background papers

Appendix A provides the paper to the Audit Committee

Decision Process

Step 1A - Chief Fire Officer Comments

(The Chief Fire Officer is asked in their capacity as the Head of Paid Service to comment on the proposal.)

I support the recommendations set out in this decision sheet and Appendix A.

Sign: *Adrian Pollock* 16 November 2017

Step 1B - Consultation with representative bodies

(The Chief Fire Officer is to set out the consultation that has been undertaken with the representative bodies)

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Step 2 - Statutory Officer Review

The report will be reviewed by the Essex Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority's ("the Commissioner") Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer prior to review and sign off by the Commissioner or their Deputy.

Monitoring Officer	Sign: <i>Jon Hancock</i>
	Print: J. HANCOCK
Chief Financial Officer	Sign: <i>M Clayton</i>
	Print: M. CLAYTON

Step 3 - Publication

Is the report for publication? YES/NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (state 'none' if applicable)

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If the report is not for publication, the Monitoring Officer will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Step 4 - Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

- 1. Of Decision Sheet YES/NO
- 2. Of Appendix YES/NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

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Date redaction carried out:

If redaction is required, the Chief Financial Officer or the Monitoring Officer are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

Print:

Date signed:

Step 5 - Decision by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign:

Print: R.C. HIRSI

Date signed: 21/11/17

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

Date signed: