

# Public Accounts Committee

## Minutes: PAC(3)-17-10: 9 December 2010

The meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at: [http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en\\_700002\\_09\\_12\\_2010&t=0](http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_700002_09_12_2010&t=0)

**Time: 13.30 – 16.10**

**Venue: Committee Room 3, Y Senedd, Cardiff Bay**

### Assembly Members in Attendance

Darren Millar (Chair), Clwyd West  
Lorraine Barrett, Cardiff South and Penarth  
Peter Black, South Wales West  
Jeff Cuthbert, Caerphilly  
Alun Davies, Mid and West Wales  
Bethan Jenkins, South Wales West  
Janet Ryder, North Wales

### Others in Attendance

Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales  
Gillian Body, Managing Partner – Performance Audit, Wales Audit Office  
Kevin Thomas, Managing Partner – Planning and Resources, Wales Audit Office  
Simon Edge, Engagement Partner – Compliance, Wales Audit Office  
Mr Mick Giannasi - Chair, ACPO Cymru  
Mrs Delyth Humfreys - Chair, Police Authorities Wales  
Mr Andrew Bevan, Treasurer, Police Authorities Wales

### Committee Staff

Alun Davidson, Clerk  
Andrew Minnis, Deputy Clerk  
Joanest Jackson, Legal Advisor

### 1. Election of a Chair

1.1 Darren Millar AM was elected Chair of the committee.

### 2. Apologies and substitutions

2.1 The Chair welcomed committee members and members of the public to the meeting.

2.2 The Chair received apologies from Jonathan Morgan, Irene James and Sandy Mewies

### 3. Sustaining value for money in the police service: evidence from the Association of Chief Police Officers and Police Authorities Wales.

**Papers: PAC(3) 17-10 (p1) Written evidence from the Association of Chief Police Officers and Police Authorities Wales**

**PAC(3) 17-10 (p2) Correspondence from the Auditor General for Wales to the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee**

3.1 The committee took evidence from Mick Giannasi, Chair of ACPO Cymru, Delyth Humfreys, Chair, Police Authorities Wales and Andrew Bevan, Treasurer, Police Authorities Wales.

### 4. Review of the Wales Audit Office financial statements 2005-2010

**Paper: PAC(3) 17-10(p3) Covering letter from the Auditor General for Wales**

**PAC(3) 17-10(p4) Report by the National Audit Office, 'Review of the Wales Audit Office Financial Statements 2005-2010'**

**PAC(3) 17-10(p5) Report by the Wales Audit Office, 'Internal Audit: Review of the Auditor General's Accounts'**

4.1 The committee took evidence from Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, Gillian Body, Managing Partner Performance Audit, Kevin Thomas, Managing Partner Planning and Resources, and Simon Edge, Engagement Partner Compliance, Wales Audit Office.

4.2 The Auditor General agreed to write to the Chair regarding his investigation of the training provided to the former Chief Operating Officer, and to report to the committee on the progress of the internal Wales Audit Office investigations in January. The Auditor General

also agreed to inform the committee of the date on which senior managers were informed of the package offered to the Chief Operating Officer, and the assurance given by the external auditors as to its propriety.

**The Committee agreed to hold the remainder of the meeting in private session under Standing Order 10.37.**

#### **5. Discussion of evidence from the Association of Chief Police Officers and Police Authorities Wales.**

5.1 The committee considered the evidence provided by the witnesses.

5.2 The committee agreed to seek clarification from the Welsh Government on the formula applied for police funding, and to pass the relevant section of the transcript of the evidence to the Home Secretary. The committee also agreed to write to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government regarding the number of organisations involved in policing issues in Wales and urging a review of administration structures.

#### **6. Discussion of the review of the Wales Audit Office financial statements 2005-2010**

6.1 The committee considered the evidence provided by the witnesses.

6.2 The committee agreed to invite the former Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer to give evidence to the committee. The committee also agreed that the Chair would write to all Assembly Members asking that any information relevant to the Wales Audit Office inquiry be handed over.

**Committee Service  
December 2010**