

# CIPFA Better Governance Forum

## Update for Police Audit Committee Members 2025

Webinar

11 November 2025

### Purpose

An update for members of police audit committees on current developments within the remit of the committee. This event will support the members of police audit committees in England and Wales with their role, including key updates on current issues and forthcoming developments.

### Learning Outcomes

The webinar will deliver:

- Improved understanding on changes to internal audit standards and the impact on the audit committee's role.
- Insight into the policing context and recent policy announcements
- Governance arrangements and the audit committee
- Opportunity for networking and discussion

### Who Will Benefit

The webinar will benefit members of police audit committees and those working closely with the committee.

### Programme

09:50 – 10:00

**Join the webinar**

10:00 – 10:10

**Introductions and outline of the webinar**

**Diana Melville Governance Advisor, CIPFA**

10:10 – 10:50	<p><b>Topical developments in Policing</b></p> <p>An update on policy, governance and performance developments in policing to inform audit committee members in their work. This session will include the latest government policy announcements and documents, HMICFRS reports and other developments. We will consider the relevant implications for forces, PCCs and their audit committees. This session will include an opportunity for questions.</p> <p><b>Alison Dewhirst, Associate Police Advisor</b></p>
10:50 – 11:15	<p><b>What risks does your authority face?</b></p> <p>An opportunity to discuss the risks that OPCCs and police forces face and how these are addressed in the work of the audit committee.</p> <p><b>Facilitated discussion with Diana &amp; Alison</b></p>
11:15 – 11:30	<p><b>Break</b></p>
11:30 – 12:10	<p><b>How a good relationship with the audit committee helps deliver improvements in governance and internal controls</b></p> <p>When the Audit Committee actively engages with management, it promotes accountability, reinforces ethical standards, and supports a culture of continuous improvement. As a result, governance structures become stronger, and internal controls are more effective and sustainable.</p> <p>Cleveland Police were in HMICFRS's Engage Enhanced Monitoring for an extended period of time and were then able to come out of it. Our guest speaker, Ian Wright, Assistant Chief Officer - Enabling Services for Cleveland Police, will speak on how the Joint Audit Committee was a definite point of strength and how it added value in their improvement process.</p> <p><b>Ian Wright, Assistant Chief Officer – Enabling Services, Cleveland Police</b></p>

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12:10- 12:50

**Update from CIPFA - Developments in internal audit and governance**

An update on current developments in internal audit, external audit and governance relevant to the work of audit committee members. This session will include:

- The CIPFA Addendum and the changes you should see in your annual review and Annual Governance Statements
- CIPFA Bulletin on External Quality Assessments
- CIPFA Code of Practice for the Governance of Internal Audit and the recommended approach to self-assessment for the audit committee

**Diana Melville, Governance Advisor, CIPFA**

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12:50 – 13:00

**Questions**

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13:00

**Close of Webinar**



**CIPFA Sustainability Policy**

CIPFA is delivering all of our training courses, workshops and seminars in accordance with our sustainability strategy. We do not provide hardcopy course materials to delegates and these are now distributed by email in advance of the event. We are striving to reduce our carbon footprint in every way that we can, and we hope that we can count on your support.