



Request for decision: D36-2016

Subject matter: Appointment of external auditors

Executive summary:

In 2010 the Government announced its intention to abolish the Audit Commission and put in place new decentralised arrangements for the audit of local public bodies.

The Local Accountability and Audit Bill, published in May 2013, delivered the Government's commitment to close the Audit Commission and transfer its remaining functions. The Bill gave local bodies the freedom to appoint their own auditors from an open and competitive market and manage their own audit arrangements (with appropriate safeguards to ensure auditor independence).

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 allows for sector-led collective procurement arrangements under which relevant authorities would be able to opt to have their auditor appointed by a specified sector-led body, rather than appoint locally.

This report provides information on the sector-led procurement approach from Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA) – an independent, not for profit company limited by guarantee and established by the Local Government Association (LGA).

The report was approved by Audit Committee on 6th December 2016.

Recommendations (with reasons for that recommendation)

- That the PCC and the Chief Constable are asked to support the principle of joining Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited for the procurement of audit contracts with effect from 2018/19.

Police and Crime Commissioner

The above request has my approval.

Signed:

Date: 20 December 2016