**OFFICE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

**Lead Officer: Chief Executive**

**TITLE: OPCC Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy**

**DATE: 21st March 2024**

**TIMING:**  **Routine**

**PURPOSE: Consideration and comment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **RECOMMENDATION**  That the Joint Audit Committee consider the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and provide any comments as appropriate. |
| **2.** | **INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND**  The OPCC is committed to a culture of honesty and integrity and has had its own Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy in place since its inception in 2012 when it replaced the Police Authority. Fraud and corruption can have a severe impact on the operation and the trust and confidence in an organisation and the PCC is committed to ensuring that any opportunity for fraud and corruption is minimised. |
| **3.** | **ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**  The policy has been reviewed and updated in conjunction with the Chief Executive. It has also been circulated to Legal Services for feedback to be provided. It is closely aligned to the Gwent Police policy whilst also distinguishing the reporting structure for any concerns made by or to those working for the OPCC. |
| **4.** | **NEXT STEPS**  Any comments made by the JAC will be considered by the OPCC and incorporated as necessary. Once the consultation process has finished, the policy will be finalised, published to the OPCC website and shared with staff members. |
| **5.** | **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**  It is hoped that having this policy in place and providing avenues for people to report any concerns that may come to their attention will minimise any financial impact fraud, corruption or theft will have on both the OPCC and Gwent Police. |
| **6.** | **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**  There are no personnel considerations as a result of this report. |
| **7.** | **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**  Joint Legal Services are being involved in the review of this policy to ensure it complies with all relevant legislation and guidance. |
| **8.** | **EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS**  This policy has been considered against the general duty to promote equality as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.    Consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998 in preparing this report. |
| **9.** | **RISK**  The risk to the OPCC of theft, fraud and corruption has been mitigated as much as possible by the implementation of this policy and by making all staff aware of how to raise concerns should they have any. |
| **10.** | **PUBLIC INTEREST**  This report and policy will be made available on the OPCC website. |
| **11.** | **CONTACT OFFICER**  Joanne Regan, Head of Assurance and Compliance |
| **12.** | **ANNEXES**  Appendix 1 – Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy |