



The Corner
Bank Chambers
26 Mosley Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1DF

Tel: +44 (0)191 383 6300
www.mazars.co.uk

Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham
Police Headquarters
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TT

Direct Line: 0113 387 8850
Email: mark.kirkham@mazars.co.uk
Date: 28 September 2021

Dear Commissioner

Audit letter – Delay in issuing the Auditor’s Annual Report

The 2020 Code of Audit Practice requires us to issue our Auditor’s Annual Report, which includes our commentary on the Commissioner’s arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources (our VFM commentary) within 3 months of issuing our opinion on the financial statements, and before 30th September. Where this is not possible, we are required to write to you setting out the reasons for the delay in an ‘audit letter’. For the purposes of compliance with the Code of Audit Practice, this letter constitutes the ‘audit letter’.

As a result of the ongoing pandemic, the National Audit Office updated its guidance to auditors in April 2021 to allow auditors to delay the completion of their work on VFM arrangements. The revised guidance requires auditors to complete their work and issue their Auditor’s Annual Report no more than three months after the date of the opinion on the financial statements.

In line with the National Audit Office guidance, we have not yet issued our Auditor’s Annual Report including our VFM commentary. We expect to publish the Auditor’s Annual Report no later than 3 months following the issue of our opinion on the financial statements, which subject to satisfactory completion of our audit, we plan to issue in December.

Yours sincerely


Mark Kirkham (Sep 28, 2021 11:51 GMT+1)

Mark Kirkham

For and on behalf of Mazars LLP