

Minutes of Meeting of Audit and Risk Committee

Date: 15 October 2020

Venue: by Zoom

Attendance:

Committee Moling Ryan (Chair), Ronan Nolan, Melanie Pine

Secretary Clare Kelly

Executive Helen Hall (Chief Executive), Margaret Tumelty, Claire McElroy

1. Agenda

The following matters were considered and discussed as set out on the agenda:

1.1 Closed Session – Committee members only

1.2 Chair's opening remarks

- I. Apologies
- II. Draft Agenda
- III. Minutes and matters arising
- IV. Correspondence
- V. Chief Executive's Update

1.3 Governance

I. Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (Annex)

1.4 Risk

I. Revised Draft Risk Register for Discussion

1.5 Other Business

2. Chair's Opening Remarks

The agenda was approved. The draft minutes of the Committee meeting on 17th September 2020 were approved and cleared for publication.

The Chief Executive provided an update to the Committee on recent issues and events, including in relation to the Authority's oversight of Policing COVID-19, periodic reports to the Minister for Justice & Equality on the performance by the Garda Síochána in relation to COVID-19 Regulations, the submission of the Policing Authority's response to the Heads of Bill, which the Authority received in relation to the transition to the new oversight organisation, and the process in relation to the anticipated appointment of new Authority Members over the coming months.

The Authority noted the correspondence from the Comptroller and Auditor General in relation to Guidance on the Impact of Covid-19 on the Control Environment. The Committee welcomed the Guidance. It was agreed that it was a practical and useful document, which would support the work of the Executive to ensure that proper controls are maintained during COVID-19.

3. Governance

The Committee considered the revised terms of reference for the proposed Independent External Assessment of the Authority in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, to be carried out by the Internal Audit Provider. The proposal was approved by the Committee.

4. Risk

The revised draft risk register was considered by the Committee. The Committee noted the significant work that had been undertaken. The matter was discussed in detail, with particular focus on the risk rankings of individual risks. The revised risk register was approved by the Committee, subject to the agreed amendments. It was agreed that the revised risk register would be presented to the Authority in October.