



VERA BAIRD^{QC}
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER



AUDIT COMMITTEE - INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria, Vera Baird, and the Chief Constable, Sue Sim, have recently agreed to set up a Joint Independent Audit Committee to maintain an effective internal audit of their affairs as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011. They wish to appoint members of the public to be independent members to this committee.

The audit committee will consider the internal and external audit reports of both the PCC and the Chief Constable and advise the PCC and the Chief Constable according to good governance principles and appropriate risk management arrangements in accordance with proper practices.

Applicants will need to be able to absorb and analyse complex information and make clear, independent judgements, have financial awareness, be able to think independently and have a balanced approach to significant issues. It is desirable that you also have an awareness and understanding of public sector:

- Financial issues.
- Governance – an understanding of the requirements of legislation and local arrangements.
- Internal Control Assurance – understanding of the contribution of a strong internal control environment to the achievement of organisational objectives.
- Risk Management – a practical understanding of risk theory and the relationship between risk and control in the achievement of organisational objectives.
- Accounting issues.
- Regulatory frameworks and compliance.

Some knowledge of the role of the Commissioner's and Force's key activities is also desirable.

The appointment will initially be for one year. It is anticipated that the audit committee will meet five or six times per year. An allowance and reasonable expenses will be payable for attendance at these meetings.

Application forms and further details can be obtained by emailing deanlowery@gateshead.gov.uk or by telephoning (0191) 433 2128.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 22 March 2013.

Vera Baird QC
Police and Crime Commissioner

Sue Sim
Chief Constable