

Estates, IT and Transport

Report by Frank McCarney

During the period in question, meetings took place with senior managers in Estates, IT and Transport in order for me to gain a working knowledge of their respective fields, to learn about the key issues and to ascertain how performance was measured and reported.

In the annual internal audit report to the audit committee I was pleased to see that all internal audit reports pertaining to subjects in my area of governance had received opinions from the Head of Internal Audit of “*moderate*” or “*substantial*”, for which the directorate is to be applauded. Clearly, internal control, which is vital at all times but particularly when the pounds need to be looked after, is being maintained to a satisfactory standard.

The directorate’s performance report shows that good performance is being achieved and maintained in IT, estates and transport. It is particularly pleasing to see national benchmarking results being used to indicate the relative performance of some of these functions compared to others across the country.

As part of the resources stream, I received an interesting and informative presentation from the Director of Resources on the role being played by his directorate in the 150plus programme and in particular, how the directorate was re-positioning itself in the light of the required financial savings. It was re-assuring to hear that the directorate was well down the road in its plans and actions, that progress on identifying efficiencies were well developed and staff were being fully consulted

Nevertheless, there remains a need for the authority to maintain a close monitoring and challenge role to ensure that the challenges of 150plus are met. Whilst these functions are termed “support services”, they remain vital to the provision of an effective and sustainable police force.

For the future, there will be a lead member for assets, within the resources stream.

Councillor Frank McCarney