Additional Evidence to Public Audit Committee from the Scottish Government, 26 July 2024

Police Training Centre - Jackton

In my evidence to Committee on 6 June 2024, I explained that Police Scotland is currently undertaking a review of its entire estate, part of which is looking at its future estate requirements. The Police Training Centre at Jackton is therefore being considered in the context of this extensive programme of work.

Police Scotland is taking professional advice to assist it in the development of options for the Police Training Centre at Jackton. As well as considering the future requirements for this property, the options will also inform the development of a business case for exiting the PFI contract, which will then be considered through formal Police Scotland and Scottish Police Authority (SPA) governance later this year.

Given this ongoing work, and the fact that the final cost will be subject to negotiations with the PFI company, Police Scotland is unable to provide information on the cost of exiting this PFI arrangement at the current time. These costs are not fixed as part of the contract.

The Scottish Government will continue to work closely with Police Scotland and the SPA, to understand their plans for the Training Centre, and the potential financial impact of exiting the contract. As I also said in my evidence to Committee, the SPA and Police Scotland will take account of the potential costs associated with exiting this contract as part of their future overall capital investment plans.

I hope this additional information is helpful to the Committee. I remain grateful to Audit Scotland and the Committee for their interest in this issue.

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Scottish Government