



Police and Crime Strategic Board

20 August 2015

Chief Constable's Report

1. National Issues

1.1 Update on 'A fair deal for the people of Lincolnshire'

1.1.1 Consultation on reform of police funding arrangements

1.1.2 One of the government's key priorities in this new parliament is to continue the programme of police reforms including putting police funding on a long-term, sustainable footing.

1.1.3 A review of existing arrangements has concluded that the current model for allocating core government grant funding to the police in England and Wales is complex, opaque and out of date and should be replaced by a proposed simplified model.

1.1.4 The government has launched a consultation seeking views on the principles underpinning this proposed model, with a view to implementation for the 2016/17 financial year. It also invites views on a number of key decisions including how to transition from the current approach to the new model and proposes a further simplification in the way in which legacy council tax grants are managed.

1.1.5 Finance have been examining the formula of the proposed model and how the figures work, and have found various versions of the data sets but it is not clear from the consultation document how they are applied. At the moment the potential for coming to the wrong conclusion is huge and there is concern at this stage that anything modelled will be wildly inaccurate. For this reason further work on the model has ceased.

1.1.6 One of the conclusions drawn from the way the consultation is written is that the final outcome may look very different, as even though it is a much simpler formula just moving one of the percentages will make a large difference to some forces.

1.1.7 Members of the finance team are attending national consultation events in August and September where there will be an opportunity to understand how others are interpreting the consultation and data sets. There is also a workshop with the Police and Crime Commissioner Treasury Society (PACCTS) during August to further examine the consultation document.

1.1.8 A response template has been created identifying the issues and the specific questions requiring answers and Howard Hunt, Deputy Chief Executive, is leading on producing the Lincolnshire response before the consultation closes on 15 September.

2 Regional Issues

2.1 East Midlands Regional Agile Working Project - update

- 2.1.1 The Regional Agile Working Project has produced a full business case detailing the proposal for a regional middleware (software) solution that will enable 2,500 front line officers in EMOpSS and Nottinghamshire to perform their duties from the field by providing a user friendly interface to back end systems (in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire) via a mobile device.
- 2.1.2 The four forces have agreed to enter into a two year contract with a middleware provider, with scope to extend the contract by an additional three years.
- 2.1.3 The middleware will deliver a solution for the EMOpSS officers as well as replacing Nottinghamshire's mobile working solution which will become operationally non-viable from February 2016 following the migration of Nottinghamshire to NICHE for Crime and Intelligence.
- 2.1.4 The middleware is only one component of the mobile working solution; there is also a requirement for devices, network connectivity, mobile device management software and infrastructure to host the software. The regional project team are currently working on identifying the appropriate suppliers for these further components.
- 2.1.5 This project is being supported by funding obtained from the Police Innovation Funding.

3 Local issues

3.1 Blue Light Collaboration Project – update

- 3.1.1 The Steering Group met on 23 July to discuss the Outline Business Case regarding the costed options for a blue light campus, joint FCR, relocation of Fire and West Area Police non-operational functions to HQ and wider estates. These included costs associated to construction and ICT based on the premise that the current buildings did not have sufficient capacity for over 150 new members of staff. However further work is being undertaken by Lincolnshire County Council to undertake a feasibility study of Police HQ to identify a cost effective solution to increase capacity.
- 3.1.2 EMAS have identified their commitment to a shared Operational Station in Lincoln but due to current projects within the East Midlands they will be unable to co-locate at this moment in time to either Police HQ or the FCR which will see a significant reduction in the number of people having to relocate.
- 3.1.3 It was agreed by the Steering Group that the project should stand up on its own without any reliance on government funding. Although additional funding would be beneficial it should not be seen to be a barrier to progressing with the project. Therefore the business case would be developed further including considering alternative sites to South Park and the provision of an updated financial appraisal based upon utilising the existing Police HQ and Control Room, as well as identifying other financial efficiencies, such as wider co-location of resources.

3.2 Body Worn Video Cameras – Update

- 3.2.1 The Force has procured and taken receipt of 500 Body Worn Video Cameras (BWVC) from Reveal Media. The project team have initiated communications to Officers, attending the recent Sergeant seminars to brief them on the project.
- 3.2.2 Cameras will initially be issued to Community Patrol and Beat Sergeants, Constables and Special Constables on a pool basis.
- 3.2.3 The Mobile Data project will 'go-live' prior to the roll-out of BWVC devices which is planned for early 2016. The project team have negotiated a delayed warranty of the BWVC devices until January 2016 to accommodate this.

3.3 Mobile Data – Update

- 3.3.1 Contracts between G4S and Airwaves (Kelvin Connect) have now been signed and the initial processes are being streamlined with process owners in conjunction with Kelvin Connects Business Improvement Consultant, with these due to be fully signed off on 10 September.
- 3.3.2 The force has seconded 5 Constables to the project for the month of October to carry out rigorous user acceptance testing with the formal go live scheduled for 9 November. This will see all officers based at Market Rasen, Horncastle and Lincoln E-Shift issued a live device.
- 3.3.3 The project team are currently working closely with G4S to ensure all IT infrastructure is in place and training packages written.