

## Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Lincolnshire Request for Decision

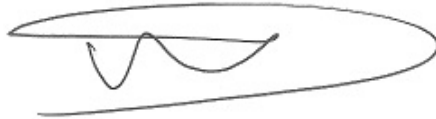
**Ref:** 20-2024  
**Date:** 19 June 2024

<b>Subject</b>	
<b>Drones capability requirement to provide cost effective air support</b>	
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>ACC Chris Davison</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Kevin Taylor, Chief Pilot Drones Tel 01522 947552</b>
<b>Executive summary and purpose of report:</b> <p>The purpose of this report is to seek approval for an uplift in staff establishment and additional equipment required to ensure compliance with Civil Aviation Authority Operational Authorisation for Drone Operations.</p> <p>The additional equipment and hardware uplift will allow the Force to fund the expansion and roll-out of additional drones to geographically selected bases, equip trained officers with improved equipment offering enhanced capability.</p> <p>The uplift in staff resource is for a Deputy Chief Pilot to assist in the required training and Continual Professional Development (CPD) for the forces drone expansion program. This will increase capacity and capability, increase resilience and reduce risks of over reliance on a single individual, as demand for the use of drones continues to grow.</p> <p>The additional role will focus on the training quality and standards ensuring the force deliver a comprehensive 24/7 air support capability.</p> <p>This is necessary to ensure the force remains compliant with Civil Aviation Authority statutory requirements, the pending roll out of the NPCC Approved Professional Practice relating to the safe and compliant operation of drones.</p> <p>This business case met the threshold at the Business Case Panel and was approved at the extended COT (Chief Officer Team) meeting in January 2024. It was approved by Deputy Chief Constable Julia Debenham, and all stakeholders of the Chief officer Team.</p>	
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<p>That the following items are considered and approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. An uplift in additional drone hardware and supporting equipment along with an increase in the establishment of 1 FTE within the Drone Unit, taking the establishment from 1 to 2 FTE.</li><li>2. This will result in an estimated capital cost of £114,308 and £45,615 revenue, giving a total of £159,923 in year 1. Annual revenue costs of £62,090 will be required thereafter to run and maintain the equipment and provide staffing.</li></ol>

	<p>3. Capital elements to be included in the capital equipment replacement budget and funded via borrowing. Year 1 revenue costs to be funded from the Performance and Productivity Reserve with subsequent years built into the budget setting process.</p>
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**Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire**

I hereby approve the recommendation above, having considered the content of this report.



**Signature:**

**Date:** 19 June 2024

**Non-confidential facts and advice to the PCC**

**1. Introduction and background**

- 1.1 The business case proposes changes to establishment required to ensure compliance with the Civil Aviation Authority and NPCC proposed Approved Professional Practice (APP).
- 1.2 The purpose of this business case is to define the necessary establishment changes needed by the Force to ensure compliance with the Code.
- 1.3 The required uplift to establishment is essential to maintaining quality standards and accreditation.
- 1.4 Required changes to the establishment of 1 x FTE Deputy Chief Pilot.
- 1.5 Uplift of 2 additional drones operational based from 4 to 6.
- 1.6 The training and ongoing CPD of an additional 16 drone pilots.
- 1.7 The Procurement of additional equipment to support and enhance drone capability for the force.

**2. Links to Police and Crime Plan and PCC's strategies/priorities**

2.1 The uplift of this additional resource supports the Police and Crime Commissioner's Strategic aims of:

- Policing that works: Holding the Chief Constable to account for the services he provides and ensure he continues to innovate and transform the service and gives the frontline officers the "right tools for the job" to respond to the diverse needs of our communities.
- Protecting and Supporting Victims and the Vulnerable: Ensure victims and survivors receive appropriate, timely support from all relevant agencies during their journey through the criminal justice system.

**a. Financial Considerations**

Estimated capital costs of £114,308 for equipment to be funded from the already approved capital equipment replacement budget.

It is proposed that the revenue costs for the uplift in resourcing of £45,615 are to be funded from the Performance and Productivity Reserve in year 1.

Annual revenue costs estimated at £62,090 in subsequent years proposed to be built into the budget setting process.

**b. Legal and Human Rights Considerations**

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (“the Act”) makes provision for the governance and administration of police forces. The Act charges the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire with securing the maintenance, efficiency, and effectiveness of Lincolnshire Police.

**c. Personnel and Equalities Issues**

The PCC requires all providers / contractors to have policies in place to demonstrate their commitment and meet all applicable legislative requirements in relation to personnel and equality issues.**Review Arrangements**

The procurement, advertisement and recruitment will be the responsibility of the business departments receiving support from the Commercial & Contract Management Department and HR Department. Once the project becomes business as usual the assets will be managed by the operational policing Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) team within the Central Operations Department. Performance and compliance will be monitored against legislation and regulation requirements.

**e. Risk Management**

All risks are being managed in accordance with existing Force policies and procedures and monitored as part of the ongoing Project Risks. The Force has four formal risks on its register relating to this project.

**f. Public access to information**

Information in this form, along with any supporting material, is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC’s website within one working day of approval. However, if release by that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved, publication may be deferred. An explanation for any deferment must be provided below, together with a date for publication.

<b>Is the publication of this form to be deferred?</b>	No
<b>If yes, for what reason?</b>	
<b>Until what date?</b>	

Any facts / advice / recommendations that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form.


<b>Is there a Part 2 form?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, for what reason?</b>	Contains commercially and/or operationally sensitive information.

## Declarations

<b>Originating Officer:</b>	<b>Initial to confirm</b>
Assistant Chief Constable, Chris Davison recommends this proposal for the reasons outlined above	CD

<b>The following people have been consulted on this proposal:</b>	
The CC's Director of Finance and Corporate Services (S151)	SC
The Chief Constable	PG
The PCC's Chief Finance Officer	JF
The PCC's Monitoring Officer	MB

## Officer approval

<b>Chief Executive</b>	
<p>I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. Consultation outlined above has also taken place. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire.</p>	
<p><b>Signature:</b> </p>	<p><b>Date:</b> 10 June 2024</p>