

Committee: Police: Economic Crime Board	Date: 7 th June 201
Subject: Fraud Training Academy: Progress report	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police POL 25/13	For Information

Summary

At the inaugural meeting of the Economic Crime Group in June 2012, Members received a report from Detective Superintendent Crampton (Pol 39/12) outlining progress against the Force's plan to enhance services delivered by its Economic Crime & Fraud Training Academy. A further update report was submitted to your Board in September 2012 (Pol 55/12) outlining the further work undertaken by Corven consultants that detailed options for developing the Academy.

The Academy already has a good reputation and the aim is to build upon this to develop a national and international global brand in the longer term. As this is a strategic priority, the Commissioner is now chairing a 'Gold Group' and two meetings have now taken place to discuss Terms of Reference, roles and responsibilities and developing a sound business plan. The Commissioner would welcome Member attendance at this group to provide scrutiny and challenge and the intention is to also invite a member of the Chamberlain's department to sit on the group to provide financial scrutiny and input.

In the next reporting period, further work is planned on financial and resource modelling and the pricing strategy.

Other developments since the last report to your Board include: recruiting further trainers, working with the British Standards Institution (Training) for anti bribery training and hosting international delegations from other police forces, with one of the aims being to promote the services of the Academy.

Recommendations

It is recommended that members receive this report and note its contents.

Main Report

Background

1. Your Economic Crime Board has received two previous reports regarding the City of London Police (CoLP) Fraud Academy (Pol 39/12 and 55/12 refers). These outlined the Forces plans to build on the good reputation that the Force already has, in delivering this type of training with a view to extending its scope and remit to become a global brand.
2. The Academy already delivers a range of training courses including national accreditation for police fraud investigators. As part of CoLP's plans to enhance its Lead Force capability, the further development of the Academy is crucial in order to provide training to a greater number of individuals from a more diverse section of the counter-fraud community. The Force also has a strategic aim to increase income from the Academy's activities, which in turn will be made available to support other areas of operational activity – helping to mitigate the effects of ongoing budget cuts.
3. Having decided upon a basic delivery model, the Force was keen to achieve a better understanding of the risks and benefits of a commercial partnership model and commissioned Corven Consulting to produce an independent report on strategic options; Corven's final report was submitted in June 2012.
4. This report provided some useful options for discussion which were presented to your Board in September 2012.

Current Position

5. As a result of the strategic priority placed upon the development of an international Fraud Academy, the Commissioner elected to Chair a high level 'Gold Group' or Executive Steering Group' in order to provide direction at a strategic level.
6. At the inaugural meeting on 1st March 2013, the Commissioner made a key decision to focus on incremental growth utilising where necessary, CoLP's ability to pump prime from reserves to build for the future. Although the long term budget plan for the Academy for 2014-15 onwards is still being drafted, immediate efficiencies were apparent through employing more trainers and experts and reducing the spend on 'contractors'. The business

partnership options will be revisited at the end of 2013/14 as part of an ongoing growth process.

7. At the second meeting of the Group on Monday 13th May 2013, the Group further refined the Terms of Reference and roles and responsibilities.
8. As part of this discussion, the Commissioner felt that owing to the nature of the Project, Member input would be invaluable, as this would provide additional challenge and Police Authority oversight, and to this end would like to invite Member attendance at future group meetings. In addition, he has also directed Eric Nisbett (Director of Corporate Services) to make an approach to the Chamberlain's department to invite membership to the board from that department to provide financial challenge and input.
9. The Group also considered and discussed a draft business plan. The Commissioner highlighted a number of areas which required further work before the next 'Gold Group', including the financial and resource modelling and the pricing strategy. Once complete, this information will form the basis for the 2014/15- 2016/17 Academy Business Plan which will be brought to this Board for consideration by Members.
10. The Academy is currently working in conjunction with CoLP's finance team which is providing support to develop financial forecasts and modelling. Dedicated resource is currently being recruited as financial expertise will be required for the Academy whilst design and development work is underway and will continue in the next reporting period.

Update on other activity

Delivery

11. Three courses were delivered in April for a total of forty six students who were trained, including a course delivered to Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) which received very positive feedback.

Staffing

12. Recruitment activity is progressing to increase our training capacity to twelve people (4 trainers during April), to bring on board a Sales and Marketing Manager, and to double our administration and customer processing capacity.

Working with BSI

13. The Fraud Academy is working with BSI (British Standards Institution) Training to develop, deliver and co-brand training for implementation of the BS10500 anti-bribery management system. The training will be launched in June/July 2013 and will be targeted at businesses in the UK and abroad.

This opportunity supports CoLP objectives through the following:

- reducing bribery & corruption through the implementation of anti-bribery controls (an intervention specified in the NLF strategy (KPI 1.3))
 - developing an international reputation for expertise in anti-bribery & corruption
 - generating sustainable income streams
 - developing cross-selling opportunities for bribery & corruption investigation and other economic crime training
 - generating positive brand association with a longstanding not for profit British organisation that has a reputation for excellence
14. If this initiative is successful, there is potential to develop a more extensive portfolio around anti-bribery or other anti-fraud management systems, with BSI using its promotional channels to advertise other complementary/related CoLP courses.

Hosting delegations

15. Members of the Economic Crime Directorate and Chief Officer Team have recently hosted visiting delegations from both the Malaysian Police and the United Arab Emirates (Dubai) Police on the 21st and 22nd May respectively.
16. One of the aims of these visits has been to use the opportunity to market the services of the Fraud Academy with a view to running bespoke courses. This will enhance the reputation of the Academy globally and maximise income generation opportunities for the future.

Conclusion

17. Progress on the development of the Fraud Academy is steady and will continue with the support and direction of the Gold Group chaired by the Commissioner. A significant amount of positive work is progressing with

the objective of building on the existing reputation and expanding this further to work towards a global brand in the future.

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