

Committee(s): Police	Date(s): 26 th March 2015
Subject: National Police Co-ordination Centre S22A Collaboration Agreement	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police Pol 19/15	For Decision

Summary

As a result of the Review of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) led by Sir Nick Parker, ACPO will be dissolved and will be replaced by the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) on or around the 1st April 2015.

The National Police Coordination Centre ("NPoCC") was set up in April 2013 and has established a track record in facilitating mutual aid ensuring the successful policing of both pre-planned and spontaneous events around the country without compromising the delivery of day-to-day policing. It is agreed that NPoCC will continue as an independent national unit which will be managed on a day to day basis by the Head of NPoCC, who will report to the Chair of the NPCC. It's been agreed that NPoCC will be a non legal entity and will be a collaboration between Chief Officers managed through a S22A Collaboration Agreement.

On Thursday 12th March 2015, the first draft of the S22A Collaboration Agreement was sent by NPoCC to all Chief Constables. This has been sent to the Comptroller and City Solicitor for comment. It is for NPoCC to determine force level subscriptions and this process will be managed by NPoCC or by their host force. However, the contributions that English and Welsh forces would make will be based on the Home Office police core settlement arrangements, and for the City of London Police the sum proposed is £8,395.

There are no risks for the Force in signing up to this Collaboration Agreement and this is simply new administration and funding structure running alongside the newly created NPCC.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members agree to the delegation of authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair of Police Committee to endorse the final Section 22A Collaboration Agreement with NPoCC, in consultation with the Comptroller and City Solicitor, the Town Clerk and the Commissioner of Police.

Main Report

Background

1. As a result of the Parker Review, the Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland (“ACPO”) which was incorporated on 1st April 1997, will be dissolved on or around the 1st April 2015 and a new co-ordinating body known as the National Police Chiefs’ Council (“NPCC”) has been set up which will be hosted by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). Chief Constable Sara Thornton is the Chair elect of the new body.
2. The National Police Coordination Centre (“NPoCC”) was set up in April 2013. Since its launch in 2013, NPoCC has established a track record in facilitating mutual aid and thus ensuring the successful policing of both pre-planned and spontaneous events around the country without compromising the delivery of day-to-day policing. In the last year, NPoCC has demonstrated its value in planning and mobilising police resources for national events including the Commonwealth Games and the NATO Summit. It has also supported police forces in civil contingency events, such as last winter’s flooding. Prior to the setting up of the NPCC, NPoCC has reported to the ACPO president.

Current Position

3. It is agreed that NPoCC will continue as an independent national unit which will be managed on a day to day basis by the Head of NPoCC, who will report to the Chair of the NPCC. It’s been agreed that NPoCC will be a non legal entity and will be a collaboration between Chief Officers. The Host Force, the MPS, will not be liable for the actions of NPoCC and any liabilities will be shared between the Parties.
4. The Parties have agreed to collaborate with each other under agreed terms of a S22A Collaboration Agreement in relation to the running, the carrying out of the functions, the funding and the establishment of NPoCC.
5. On Thursday 12th March 2015, the first draft of the S22A Collaboration Agreement was sent by NPoCC to all Chief Constables. This has been sent to the Comptroller and City Solicitor for comment.

Financial Implications

6. The Home Secretary wrote to Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners following the Provisional Police Funding announcement on 17th December 2014, explaining that NPoCC would no longer be funded through a reallocation from the police funding settlement. This was confirmed in the Police Grant Report England and Wales 2015-16 on 4 February 2015. As a result, the amount of Police Main Grant allocated

to PCCs for 2015/16 is £2.4m greater than it would have been if the funding for NPoCC had been held back centrally through a reallocation.

7. It is for NPoCC to determine force level subscriptions and this process will be managed by NPoCC or by their host force. However, the contributions that English and Welsh forces would make will be based on the Home Office police core settlement arrangements, and for the City of London Police the sum proposed is £8,395.

Consultation

8. The Comptroller and City Solicitor and Town Clerk have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that Members agree to the delegation of authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair of Police Committee to endorse the final Section 22A Collaboration Agreement with NPoCC in consultation with the Comptroller and City Solicitor, the Town Clerk and the Commissioner of Police.

Conclusion

10. NPoCC provide a valuable co-ordination service to all British Forces, when there are major events and incidents and the Force are supportive of this approach. There are no risks for the Force in signing up to this Collaboration Agreement and this is simply new administration and funding structure running alongside the newly created NPCC. The City Solicitors will work with the Force to ensure that the Agreement is fit for purpose.

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