

Committee(s): Police: Economic Crime Board Police Committee	Date(s): 1 st May 2015 20 th May 2015
Subject: National Lead Force Strategic Documents	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police Pol 24/15	For Information
<p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>At the last ECB we presented a report entitled ‘A narrative for fraud’ which explained to our key partners and stakeholders how we have led and are continuing to lead a transformation in the way the Country tackles the rapidly growing and evolving threat of modern fraud and cyber-enabled crime. We advised that we would be taking these themes forward through a number of strategic documents starting with an overarching National Policing Strategy out of which would fall a number of supporting themes including that of better protecting the community from fraud and providing better support for victims. The National Policing Strategy has received the formal support of the Police Crime Business Area and we have undertaken collaborative work with policing and partners within the Home Office and elsewhere to develop the supporting strategies. The crime prevention strategy has also now received CBA support. We are also now developing a draft collaborative strategy for the support to victims. These strategies are now all subject of work by national police working groups led through our chairing of the Economic Crime Portfolio to support implementation at the national and local levels. The three documents are attached as Appendices 1-3.</p> <p><u>Recommendation.</u></p> <p>Members are invited to note the contents of the attached reports.</p>	

MAIN REPORT

1. Background

We have worked in collaboration with partners within policing and beyond including the Home Office, the National Crime Agency and private and third sector stakeholders to deliver a series of key strategies to guide the national response to fraud. The aim of the overarching fraud strategy is to reduce the impact of fraud (its volume, value and personal impact), support victims and ensure UK policing has a

sustainable and credible response to this type of crime. The crime prevention and victim support strategies take particular aspects of this further to provide a coherent and comprehensive approach to policing fraud.

2. Current Position

National Policing Fraud Strategy

The fraud strategy (attached) was developed with considerable consultation with interested parties and the final version represents the inputs of the Home Office and NCA among others. National Policing Crime Business Area fully endorsed the National Policing Fraud Strategy. The Strategy sets out how Policing will:

- Make most effective use of the variety of tactics and techniques available to policing under the '4 Ps' including doing more to 'protect' communities.
- Best integrate the national, regional and local resources and capabilities
- Tackle both volume crime and support the NCA in tackling serious and organised crime.
- Ensure the focus remains on the key outcome – reducing the impact of fraud including supporting victims.

We now have several workstreams in place to develop and implement aspects of the strategy including support to victims and Protect so that the impact of the strategy can be felt at the practical level. This will be taken forward through the Economic Crime Portfolio involving a number of groups drawn from appropriate representatives from every police region. The Strategy is attached at Appendix 1.

Protect Strategy

The Crime Business Area also endorsed the Protect strategy which fell out of the overarching fraud strategy. The aim of this strategy is to reduce the impact of fraud; reducing the volume of crime, the value of the losses incurred and the wider impact on the quality of life for individual victims. It will do this by:

- Putting in place a National Economic Crime Prevention Centre.
- Establishing a National Fraud Prevention Network
- Integrating 'protect' activity within the overall strategy for the policing of fraud under the National Police Coordinator

We will use the above structure to deliver:

- An enhanced threat picture
- Empowerment of individuals and organisations to protect themselves
- More effective evidence based designed-in fraud protection bespoke to individuals and groups most at risk
- Engagement of the volunteering community

We have already been put the mechanisms for this in practice working with police and Home Office partners and others to do so creating a comprehensive network across every police force in the country and supported by a dedicated central team

within the NFIB. We have just received notification of new central government funding to support the new central team. The Protect Strategy is attached at Appendix 2.

Victim Strategy

We are currently working with partners across policing, victim support and other third party sector groups developing a victim strategy to support the national fraud strategy. Our aim is to put in place a system that delivers the appropriate care to victims in a consistent and responsive manner. We intend to place particular emphasis on addressing the needs of vulnerable and repeat victims. We are clear that this process will of necessity be different from that adopted for victims of other crime types given the national to local nature of our response and the separation between point of reporting, investigating force and victim's local force. We will be continuing work undertaken with partners including the Home Office, during the pilot of a centralised victim care unit to see how vulnerable victims can best be identified and 'fast-tracked' from Action Fraud reporting, ahead of crimes being disseminated. There is also a particular impact on victims of this crime type which also needs to be reflected in our response. A draft is attached at Appendix 3 for the information of Board members, prior to external circulation. We will share further versions of this strategy as we reflect the outcome of the consultation progresses.

Conclusion

We have delivered on behalf of and with the collaboration of policing an overarching strategy to guide the national response to fraud. Following from this we have also provided the strategy to deliver the crime prevention ('Protect' in Home Office parlance) aspects of this and are working with partners to develop the victim support theme of the fraud strategy. As we develop the strategy together with partners we are putting in place the necessary working groups to ensure they are put into practice at the operational level.

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Attachments:

Appendix 1 - National Policing Fraud Strategy
Appendix 2- National Policing Fraud Protect Strategy
Appendix 3- Draft National Policing Strategy for the Victims of Fraud