



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Finance Officer

Date: 10 November 2016

SECTION 22A COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS UPDATE

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Business Coordination Board (“the Board”) with details of the progress on Section 22A Collaboration Agreements under the Police Act 1996 (as amended) (“the S22A Agreements”) for the collaboration of the six corporations sole (the Chief Constables of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire and the Police and Crime Commissioners for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire) that have formed a Strategic Alliance Summit (the “Alliance”).

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to note the signing of the updated S22A Agreements relating to Public Contact, ERSOU and CTIU and the intention to sign updated S22A Agreements relating to CJS.

2.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) signs the Decision Notices relating to the signing of the updated S22A Agreements as set out above.

3. Background

3.1 Sections 22A and 23 Police Act 1996 (as amended) (“the Act”) enable the Chief Officers of one or more police forces and two or more policing bodies to make an Agreement relating to:

- *the discharge of functions of the members of the Chief Officer's forces ("force collaboration provision") and for such other provision as shall be referred to in this agreement. "Functions" comprise all and any of the powers and duties of police forces, and/or*
- *the provision about support by a policing body for the police force which another policing body is responsible for maintaining ("policing body and force collaboration provision"). "Support" includes the provision of premises, equipment, staff, services and facilities.*

Provided that:

- *the Chief Officers think that such an agreement is in the interests of the efficiency or effectiveness of one or more police forces, and*
- *the policing bodies think that the agreement is in the interests of the efficiency and effectiveness of one of or more policing bodies or police forces.*

- 3.2 Through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (Section 89) the presumption is now in favour of collaboration, i.e. joint working should be taken forward where in the opinion of Chief Officers or policing body collaboration delivers greater efficiency or effectiveness.
- 3.3 The Alliance has already collaborated a number of operational (e.g. JPS functions), operational support (e.g. Local Criminal Justice Board administration) and organisational support (e.g. PSD, Procurement) functions. In December 2013 they signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' to foster further organisational and operational support service collaboration where greater efficiency and effectiveness is supported. To date seven business cases have been agreed and section 22A Agreements signed (i.e. Firearms Licensing, Human Resources, Public Contact implementation, Criminal Justice phase 1, Custody, Information Communication Technology and Information Management) in addition to progressing a number of joint enabling initiatives (i.e. the Athena policing system and a single Human Resource & Finance system).
- 3.4 The Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioners Chaired governance boards have been established for JPS, Operational Support and Organisational Support to provide more detailed scrutiny.
- 3.5 Updated section 22 agreements for Joint Protective Services ("JPS"), the Professional Standards Department ("PSD") and Procurement were signed at the Strategic Alliance Summit on 28 September. These had been considered by the Board at the meeting on 23 June 2016.

4. Public Contact

- 4.1 The transitional Section 22 agreement for collaboration of Public Contact was signed on 27 November 2015. An updated section 22 for Public Contact was signed in November 2016 supporting a single Senior Leadership Team ("SLT").
- 4.2 The Single Leadership Team will promote convergence of working practices across the existing public contact centres, further develop digital public contact and also manage collaborated budgets.

5. Criminal Justice Phase 2

- 5.1 A business case for Criminal Justice Phase 2 was presented to the Summit on 28 September 2016 to outline the level of savings that could be achieved by implementing a proposed model for Criminal Justice (CJ) Phase 2 functions as from 1st April 2017 and prior to the implementation of Athena.
- 5.2 The main functions included in Phase 2 are outlined below:
- Administration of Justice (AOJ).
 - Witness Care and Co-ordination.
 - Crown Court Liaison Officers.
- 5.3 The BCH outlines a proposed Blueprint which is capable of being delivered prior to the implementation of Athena demonstrating a clear step in the direction of travel which will:
- Release savings of £654K from the AOJ function for Beds, Cambs and Herts from April 2017.
 - Improve the service to Victim and Witnesses
 - Provide a stronger more resilient and efficient model with increased capability to manage future change at both a regional and national level.;
 - Be conducive with Regional collaboration work towards alignment and convergence;
 - Position CJ in the best possible place to implement Athena by assisting to mitigate some of the business and reputational risks associated with implementation i
 - Provide a more cohesive BCH Collaborated CJ and Custody Department with increased resilience across the SMT and wider department.
- 5.4 The Section 22 Agreement is in the process of being finalised and will be presented for signing at a future Strategic Alliance Summit.

6 Eastern Region Functions

- 6.1 The current ERSOU S22 Collaboration Agreement was signed by Chief Constables and Police & Crime Commissioners on 23 July 2014; this Agreement formalised the transfer of Lead Force responsibilities from Hertfordshire to Bedfordshire.
- 6.2 The current Counter Terrorism Intelligence Unit (“CTIU”) S22 Collaboration Agreement was signed by Chief Constables and Police & Crime Commissioners on 23 July 2014; this Agreement formalised the transfer of Lead Force responsibilities from Hertfordshire to Bedfordshire.
- 6.3 In April 2015 it was agreed that Kent Police could join any of the ERSOU capabilities they wished to join. Kent have subsequently gave formal notice to SEROCU that they will be withdrawing from their current Collaboration Agreement as of 31 March 2017.

- 6.4 Three new Collaboration Agreements were therefore circulated to include Kent Police and also update the Agreements for feedback from the Office of Surveillance Commissioners:
- The ERSOU Agreement.
 - A new Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act S22 Agreement
 - A new ECTIU Collaboration Agreement has been drafted to reflect the collaboration of all force CT resources with the regional CTIU to create a single regional CT structure, overseen by Bedfordshire Police as Lead Force.
- 6.5 The draft ERSOU agreement has been reviewed by the legal services teams in all 7 forces and it takes into account and reflects all feedback received. The majority of the ECTIU agreement content is in effect a mirror image of the ERSOU agreement.
- 6.6 The ERSOU and RIPA Agreements ‘commenced’ on the date of signing; 10 October 2016. The ECTIU Agreement reflects and will facilitate new areas of change; the full collaboration of all force counter terrorism and domestic extremism resources into a single command. The ‘commencement date’ of the ECTIU Agreement will therefore be 1 April 2017 in order that the necessary HR processes and associated staff consultation can take place.
- 6.7 The final draft documents have been circulated to Chief Executives and Force Legal Teams and were presented at the Regional Alliance Summit Meeting for signature on 10 October 2016.

7 Recommendation

- 7.1 The Board is recommended to note the signing of the updated S22A Agreements relating to Public Contact, ERSOU and CTIU and the intention to sign an updated S22A Agreements relating to CJS.
- 7.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) signs the Decision Notices relating to the signing of the updated S22A Agreements as set out above.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document(s)	Minutes of BCH Strategic Alliance 28 September 2016 Business Co-ordination Board meeting 23 June 2016 – agenda item 12, JPS and PSD agreements
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