



POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
6th March 2014

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8

PROCUREMENT DEVELOPMENTS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the Panel on procurement developments affecting the police service.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

2. On 11 February 2014 the Council of the European Union adopted the new EU Procurement Directive. This will replace the 2004 Directive which was implemented in England and Wales through the Public Contracts Regulations 2006. The Cabinet Office wishes to adopt the 2014 Directive in the UK as soon as possible. Some of the changes to which it has drawn attention are: encouraging small and medium enterprises to tender for public contracts, making procurement processes simpler and more streamlined, and excluding suppliers from a procurement procedure for significant or persistent poor performance.
3. The 2011 Police Act (Equipment) Regulations require the police service to procure IT commoditised hardware and commercial off the shelf software from the Sprint II framework. The framework is due to expire on 15 March 2014 and has not been replaced. Draft regulations have been prepared removing the requirement to procure IT commoditised hardware and commercial off the shelf software off a framework that has expired or otherwise terminated.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

4. Since April 2012 Wiltshire Police have received procurement services from the South West Police Procurement Department (SWPPD). This service provides the procurement service to Wiltshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Devon Cornwall (the host organisation). Avon and Somerset are not part of the Department as it has its procurement services supplied by the South West One partnership with IBM.
5. By being part of the SWPPD Wiltshire is able to benefit from the economies of scale found in large scale procurements and bulk buying pricing arrangements.

This partnership has enabled the following reductions in the budget for Wiltshire of £682,000 in the last 2 years. This is detailed below;

	2013-14 £000's	2014-15 £000's	Total £000's
Vehicle Parts	74		74
Vehicle Hire	1	8	9
Cleaning		109	109
Office Consumables	31	2	33
Furniture		10	10
Postage	30		30
Networks/Comms	245	75	320
IT Hardware		3	3
Interpreters		21	21
Professional Services	50	23	73
Total	431	251	682

6. In delivering these savings the SWPPD consider all contract routes available. Undertaking a mini-competition on a national framework contract enables the Forces to push prices down and improve service.

National contracts are also used for other service such as vehicle procurement and uniform, thus obtaining the full benefits of bulk procurement.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

5. Whilst the SWPPD has delivered savings to Commissioners and Chief Constables they are aware that further efficiencies may be obtainable if Avon and Somerset is involved fully. Based on this the region has agreed to look to see if there are benefits in combining the procurement functions of SWPPD and South West One. External consultants will be appointed to report on this proposal in the near future. This report will need to consider the legal implications of the current arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION

6. The report is produced for the Panel's information.

Angus Macpherson
Police and Crime Commissioner

TERMS OF REFERENCE

STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT BOARD

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide strategic oversight and direction of all improvement activities conducted by the Force including Performance, Risk, Improvement Plans and progress against the Force Delivery Plan • Understand the links between these factors and monitor progress from existing improvement plans • To ensure the Force is fully prepared for future HMIC inspections and the HMIC annual business plan
OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review, approve and monitor the Corporate Risk Register • To ensure the Force is effectively delivering against the Delivery Plan • To agree improvement actions and assign owners for their completion • To review HMIC inspections, set direction for improvement plans, and ensure preparedness for future inspections through establishing working groups • Effectively feed required information back to SCT on a regular basis
ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT	<p>Wiltshire Police has a strong performance framework in place which is well established through the Senior Command Team and locally through Weekly Management Meetings. At the start of 2012/13, a new improvement framework was put in place which not only assesses performance trends, but includes survey results, financial progress, assessments on risk, AFI's and continuous improvement reviews. This is in line with the Chief's mission of providing the best quality of service.</p> <p>It was identified through the first quarter of the year that it was a challenge to effectively manage this through SCT due to time constraints. In addition to this, a review of corporate governance which took place in August 2013 identified that although local activity is strong, governance and corporate memory of improvement activity is poor. This is important not only to evidence to the HMIC that we are an organisation that wants to improve, but also in times of major transformation and austerity.</p>
STANDING AGENDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Actions / Matters Arising • Performance overview • Corporate Risk Register • Delivery plan • HMIC inspection update/preparedness • Improvement plans
LINKS TO FORCE	If required, updates are provided through SCT on content discussed at SIB.
OPERATING ENVIRONMENT	<p><i>Requirement for an effective meeting:</i> Full attendance (deputy sent if primary attendance is not possible) Engagement</p>
ATTENDANCE	<p>DCC (Chair) (Vice Chair) SCT <i>or representatives</i> Business Leads for key areas of improvement (identified through HMIC inspections) Business Improvement representatives</p>

FREQUENCY	Monthly
SUPPORT	The compilation of papers and the production of action-point minutes will be coordinated by the Staff Officer and PA to the DCC
GPMS	All papers will be subject of a PROTECT protective marking