
Agenda Item: [B]

Meeting Date: 23rd February 2009

Report Title: Draft 2009 Regional Collaboration Plan

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Sponsor of paper

Janet Birkin as Chair of EMPAJC

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Reason for report

To present the draft of the regional collaboration plan to the Committee for approval and / or further amendment.

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Recommendations

That the Committee approve the draft for publication, subject to minor amendments at the beginning of April 2009.

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Detail and analysis

4.1 Status of the document

The draft presented at Appendix B is a text only version. The published version will include appropriate photographs and graphic design elements.

There are still some sections of the document that need updating. The most notable ones are the finance section, which is still awaiting input from the strategic finance lead, and the vision, which is an updated version that has not been approved by the Committee. Further detail on the vision is given below. Those sections will be updated as necessary before publication.

4.2 Feedback from consultation

General feedback was positive, with most responses concentrating on detail rather than issues with the overall content and scope of the plan. There was concern that the plan focussed too exclusively on the work of the Collaboration Programme at Newark at the expense of other collaborative ventures within the region. Members may recall that this was a deliberate change from last year. The annual report that will be produced in the summer may address some of these concerns. There were comments that the exact timescales for delivery of some projects were unclear.

Priorities and Vision

There was concern that the priorities section was unclear, and this has been revised and grouped into four clear priorities for the region:

Priority 1 – Improving confidence in the police

Priority 2 - Reducing risk

Priority 3 - Improving interoperability

Priority 4 - Improving productivity

Report to the East Midlands Police Authorities' Joint Committee

There were several comments about the current vision being too long and too vague. There were several requests that the public confidence measure be reflected within the vision.

Given this feedback, the Collaboration Programme Team have suggested a revised wording for the vision (duplicated below). This ties in with the four priorities detailed in the collaboration plan, and the agreed objectives within the collaboration programme.

“By working together we will improve productivity, improve public safety and help to improve public confidence in the police.”

The plan goes on to explain the vision in more detail:

“Productivity will be improved through working together sharing best practice, increased interoperability and shared delivery of services, and through exploiting economies of scale.

Public safety will be improved through the shared delivery of specialist services, and reducing threat risk and harm.

Public Confidence in the police will be improved from successful delivery and communication of the above two improvements, together with local policing delivery by local police forces.”

For reference the previously agreed vision is reproduced at Appendix A.

Other feedback

Other feedback focussed on the details within the plan. Specific changes that the Committee should be aware of include the inclusion of a section on the roles of staff associations and unions, revisions to the Business Crime proposed project, and inclusion of details on two ICT proposed projects, shared provision of ICT services and shared data warehouse.

5 Implications

5.1 Financial

The plan itself contains financial details for the Collaboration Programme Team.

5.2 Legal

The collaboration plan is produced in addition to Force policing plans. There is no legal requirement for the publication of this plan, but the region has led best practice in this area by producing a plan last year, and developing it further this year.

5.3 Diversity

The plan takes full account of diversity issues. The region's commitment to diversity is laid out in the plan.

5.4 Human resources

There are no Human Resources issues associated with the publication of this plan.

5.5 Consultation / communication

A draft of the plan was circulated to chief officers, police authorities, partner agencies and staff associations and unions on the 27th January 2009. Following feedback, the plan has been amended and the revised draft is attached.

- 5.6 **Risk**
Risks and threats are addressed within the plan.
- 5.7 **Policy / procedure**
There are no policy or procedure issues associated with the publication of this plan.
- 5.8 **Other**
None
- 5.9 **Exemptions (delete as appropriate)**
Yes/ No

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6 **Appendix A – previously agreed vision.**

The five police forces and police authorities of the East Midlands have signed up to a vision for the region:

“A region that is committed to working together to achieve significant efficiency benefits and performance improvement, particularly in serious and organised crime and major crime.

“We intend to have a strong regional convergence to address performance improvement and efficiency across the region through a series of regional or sub regional collaborations. Unless there is statutory constraint, the potential for regional or sub regional sharing of services will be explored. Sharing of services outside of the region will be exploited where appropriate, particularly around shared criminal markets.

“The five Forces and Authorities working together aim to:

- a) *achieve improved levels of service delivery from within existing*
- b) *resources and/ or achieve improved or similar levels of service at reduced cost.”*

7 **Appendix B – Collaboration Plan text**

Please see separate document.