



PFCC
**POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX**

**Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue
Authority**

Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 057-19
Government security classification (e.g. Not protectively marked/Official - Sensitive):
Title of report: Shared Services Agreement between Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire Rescue Authority and Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Authority For the Provision of Command and Control Mobilising Service
Area of county / stakeholders affected:
Report by : Dave Bill, Director of Prevention, Protection & Response Date of report: 28 th March 2019 Enquiries to: Dave Bill, Director of Prevention, Protection & Response

1. Purpose of the report

To formally seek authorisation of the attached Shared Services Agreement between Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority and Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Authority for the provision of Command and Control Mobilising Service.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that as Authorised Signatory, the PFCC for Essex authorises the attached Shared Services Agreement, EXECUTED AS A DEED by affixing the COMMON SEAL of Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority.

3. Benefits of the proposal

The benefits of the Shared Services Agreement are the resilience benefits as defined in the original Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) joint Section 31 grant funding of £3.2m for Future Control Room Improvements for Essex Fire & Rescue

Authority and Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Authority in 2011/12: -

- Mobile Data Terminals
- Real Time Incident Messaging
- Status Messaging
- Automatic Vehicle Location
- Call line Identification
- Integrated Geographical Information System
- Shared Gazetteer
- Service Access Node H
- Partnering with Automatic Systems Failover
- Reduction in Control Rooms/Secondary Controls

4. Background and proposal

Following the closure of the failed FiReControl project in December 2010, DCLG provided Fire and Rescue Authorities with £81m to deliver improvements to the efficiency and resilience of their fire control rooms, of which Essex and Bedfordshire received £3.2m as part of their joint bid for procurement of new Control Systems and rationalisation of Control Rooms.

Both Essex and Bedfordshire still operate their own Control Rooms, but the two Fire and Rescue Authorities now share call handing and mobilising systems, which maximises the use of Essex's upgraded information and communication technology infrastructure. The system is hosted on Essex's infrastructure and Bedfordshire accesses it from its own Control Room in Kempston. The system also enables the Fire and Rescue Authorities to take each other's calls and mobilise their respective resources. It also enabled Bedfordshire to decommission their previous Secondary Control facility, as Ongar Fire Station now provides the Secondary Control Room for both Services.

The authorisation of the Shared Services Agreement is the final step in formalising this collaboration between the two Authorities.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

No viable alternative, as the Shared Services Agreement fulfils the statutory requirements for Fire and Rescue Authorities set out by DCLG in 2010/11.

6. Strategic priorities

Satisfies the strategic priorities for Fire and Rescue Authorities set out by DCLG in 2010/11.

7. Operational implications

All operational fire and rescue implications have been incorporated in updated Business Continuity Plans for both Essex and Bedfordshire Control Rooms.

8. Financial implications

The Shared Services Agreement sets out that the Control Systems costs are split two thirds for Essex Fire & Rescue Authority and one third for Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Authority, based on incident, staff and resource volumes for the respective authorities.

This provides Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority with approximately £85k per annum revenue from Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Authority.

9. Legal implications

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in all respects in accordance with the laws of England and Wales.

Subject to the provisions of Clause 27 (Dispute Resolution) of this Agreement, both Parties agree the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and settle any action, suit, proceeding or dispute in connection with this Agreement.

10. Staffing implications

There are no staffing implications associated with the Agreement.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no equality and diversity implications associated with the Agreement.

12. Risks

There are no key risks associated with the Agreement.

13. Governance Boards

The following Governance Boards are in place to manage the Agreement: -

- Control Monthly Review Board
- Service Leadership Team Meetings

14. Background papers

Please find attached the following documents: -

- Shared Service - Main Agreement
- DCLG letter to respective Chief Fire Officers, 1 March 2012
- Ministerial Statement - Fire and Rescue Control Services Cover, 1 March 2012

Decision Process

Step 1A - Chief Fire Officer Comments

(The Chief Fire Officer is asked in their capacity as the Head of Paid Service to comment on the proposal.)

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Sign: 4th April 2019

Date: 

Step 1B – Consultation with representative bodies

(The Chief Fire Officer is to set out the consultation that has been undertaken with the representative bodies)

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Step 2 - Statutory Officer Review

The report will be reviewed by the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority's ("the Commissioner's") Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the Commissioner or their Deputy.

Monitoring Officer

Sign: [Signature].....

Print: P. SEAST-ISHREWICK.....

Date: 19 JUNE 2019.....

Chief Finance Officer

Sign: [Signature].....

Print: CHENN MCGUINNESS.....

Date: 26 JUNE 2019.....

Step 3 - Publication

Is the report for publication? YES/NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'none' if applicable)

If the report is not for publication, the Monitoring Officer will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Step 4 - Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1 Of Decision Sheet YES/NO

2 Of Appendix YES/NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

SCHEDULE 6 TO THE SUPPLY SERVICES AGREEMENT NOT TO BE PUBLISHED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE

Date redaction carried out:

If redaction is required, the Chief Finance Officer or the Monitoring Officer are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

Print:

Date signed:

Step 5 - Decision by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: (PFCC / DPFCC)

Print:

Date signed:

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign: (PFCC / DPFCC)

Print:

Date signed:

