



Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority

Decision Report

Report reference number: 010/2020

Government security classification: Not protectively marked

Title of report: Essex Emergency Services Collaboration Programme – Joint Data Sharing Protocol

Area of county / stakeholders affected:

Essex Police, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, East of England Ambulance Service

Report by: Amanda Johnson, Senior Projects Manager, ECFRS

Date of report: 17 March 2020

Enquiries to: Amanda Johnson, Senior Projects Manager, ECFRS

1. Purpose of the report

To gain endorsement of and commitment to the Joint Data Sharing Protocol and Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for Essex emergency services collaboration data sharing from Roger Hirst as the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority (PFCCFRA).

2. Recommendations

To adopt the proposed Joint Data Sharing Protocol and Essex Emergency Services Collaboration Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for Essex emergency services collaboration data sharing, on behalf of the PFCCFRA.

3. Benefits of the proposal

During collaborative activity to date, there have been a number of occasions where information sharing between Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS), Essex Police and East of England Ambulance Service has encountered uncertainty of process.

Closer information sharing practice will allow progress towards a whole system approach to public protection, and a whole place approach to commissioning preventative services

in response to assessments of threat, risk, harm and vulnerability, and opportunities for enabling business delivery through shared services.

All three services are part of the Whole Essex Information Sharing Framework (WEISF), and the principles of this framework have been used to develop this protocol and the DPIA that will apply to all projects within collaboration covering the emergency services of fire and rescue, police and ambulance.

This has been developed with a legitimate reason behind it as an enabler, both to meeting the overarching duty to collaborate and as a way of delivering a more efficient collaboration programme.

4. Background and proposal

The Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner; Essex Police; the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, and the East of England Ambulance Service Trust are working to improve public safety through more effective co-working, and a more joined-up approach to responding effectively to the most vulnerable groups and individuals. All organisations have a statutory obligation to collaborate under the Policing and Crime Act 2017.

Development of a joint protocol was commissioned by the Essex Emergency Services Strategic Collaboration Governance Board as an enabler which will clarify and make more efficient the information sharing between these emergency services.

Work has been undertaken via a number of workshops with the Data Protection Officers (DPOs) from Essex Police, the East of England Ambulance Service Trust (in liaison with EEAST's Caldicott Guardian) and the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to develop a suitable suite of documents which have been certified as General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliant by each organisation's DPO.

Approval has already been received in principle from the Essex Police SIRO (DCC Pippa Mills), Essex County Fire and Rescue Service SIRO (Tracey King), East of England Ambulance Service Trust (EEAST) Caldicott Guardian (Medical Director Tom Davis) and East of England Ambulance Service Trust SIRO (Wayne Bartlett-Syree).

It has been agreed with the DPOs that the information to be shared is defined as:

- Appropriate sharing of any information when in the public interest, under legal obligation and for vital interest of data subjects, which is necessary and proportionate for the collaborative initiative and in compliance with the law.

The document suite consists of:

- **Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)** - Risk assessment to identify, assess and mitigate or minimise the data protection risks of a project or activity, and
- **Data Sharing Protocol** – Sets out what and how information will be shared. The document also indicates what security measures are in place to protect data.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

The alternative option considered and rejected was to continue with the current process with specific agreements developed for individual projects, which is time consuming and does not allow for the agile working practices being aimed for.

6. Strategic priorities

Collaboration with partners is one of the eight priorities of the Fire and Rescue Plan

7. Operational implications

Specific operational data is unlikely to be shared in this space, however data that informs collaboration activity could lead to some operational improvements in the collaboration programme.

8. Financial implications

There are no financial implications associated with approving these documents.

9. Legal implications

Legal advice has been sought as part of the development process, from all the agencies' Data Protection Officers, Essex Police's Force Solicitor and the Caldicott Guardian for EEAST.

10. Staffing implications

There are no staffing implications associated with approving these documents.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

This Data Sharing Protocol is designed to ensure that information is shared in a way that is fair, transparent and in line with the rights and expectations of the people whose information is being shared.

A Joint Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been developed alongside the Joint Data Sharing Protocol to ensure that all requirements are met under the Data Protection Act 2018.

12. Risks

Any risks associated with the Joint Data Sharing Protocol are listed in the DPIA with appropriate and agreed mitigating actions.

The risk of not having a Joint Data Sharing Protocol is a lack of clarity around information sharing and inefficient information sharing processes between these emergency services.

13. Governance Boards

Agreement to progress this has been given at the Essex Emergency Services Strategic Collaboration Governance Board.

14. Background papers

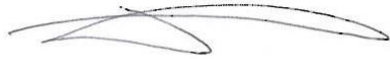
Essex Emergency Services Data Sharing Protocol
Essex Emergency Services Collaboration Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

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.)

Approved



Sign:

Date: 27/5/2020

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:

Print: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 19 May 2020

Chief Finance Officer



Sign: ...

Print: ...Neil Cross.....

Date: . 29/5/2020

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)

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.....N/A.....

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:

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.....N/A.....

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

Print: Roger Hirst

Date signed: 9 June 2020

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign: (PFCC / DPFCC)

Print:

Date signed: