

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

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| Report reference number: 124/20 |
| Classification: Not protectively marked/restricted |
| Title of report: Data Protection Officer mentoring and expert advisory services |
| Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide |
| Report by: Darren Horsman Date of report: 13 October 2020 Enquiries to: Darren.Horsman@essex.police.uk |

1. Purpose of the report

To seek approval for contracting BLS Stay Compliant to provide 1-2-1 mentoring to our Data Protection Officer and to provide 12 hours of expert advisory services as required.

2. Recommendations

Approve the allocation of £4032.75 to engage BLS Stay Compliant to support our Data Protection Officer over the next 12 months.

3. Benefits of the proposal

The proposal will provide additional reassurance as we further develop our data protection processes and systems. It will also provide ongoing tailored support to our Data Protection Officer supporting a strengthening of our capability within the office.

The mentoring and external support will, together, ensure that we have robust capacity to deal with unusual or unforeseen data protection issues and help us to fully implement the ICO research finding following a recent project with other PCC offices around the country.

4. Background and proposal

The ICO has recently undertaken a research project with several PCC and PFCC offices around the country. The results of this project have been published and provide useful specific guidance for the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners for the first time.

Ensuring the best possible data protection processes and systems are in place is a priority for the Commissioner and as such they are keen to ensure that we adopt the recommendations in the report and continue to develop our own capability in this area.

Having a recently newly appointed Data Protection Officer and Senior Information Risk Owner there is also a desire to ensure that they are supported in their roles and can fully implement the opportunities provided by the report recommendations.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

Once the decision was reached to further invest in our internal capability and capacity several different alternative options were considered. We approached several local police forces, and PCC offices to discuss support options and how they might be able to work with us to supplement our own internal capacity. While there were a number of different options considered ultimately none of these provided the level and flexibility of the support we wanted and as such the option presented in this paper was considered the preferable one.

6. Police and Crime Plan

Running throughout the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan are the themes of public accountability and trust. Ensuring that we are handling data appropriately is fundamental to maintaining the trust and confidence of the public. As such, it is vital that the Commissioner and his office comply with the Data Protection Act at all times and ensures they have the best systems and processes that they can in place.

7. Police operational implications

There are no direct operational implications.

8. Financial implications

Allocation of £4032.75 to pay for 6 months of mentoring and up to 12 hours of specialist advisory services.

9. Legal implications

This will support the Commissioner in fully complying with their obligations under the Data Protection Act and provide additional reassurance that the office is working hard to ensure the best possible practices are in place and being followed.

10. Staffing implications

None.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

While there are no specific equality and diversity implications handling data properly and ensuring people are confident in how you would handle their data is a prerequisite for monitoring equality and diversity data. As such this activity is an important enabler of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

12. Risks

There is no risk identified.

13. Governance Boards

This proposal has been discussed at a Senior Management Team meeting in the context of the implication for the PFCC office budget.

14. Background papers

N/A

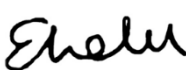
Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the OPFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Deputy M.O. Sign: 

Print: Darren Horsman

Date: 14 October 2020

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer Sign: 

Print: Elizabeth Helm

Date: 14 October 2020

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

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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Date redaction carried out:

Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only

If redaction is required, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

Print:

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Jane Gardner

Deputy PFCC

Date signed: 14 October 2020

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC