

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 097-21
Classification (e.g. Not protectively marked/restricted): Not protectively marked
Title of report: Essex Police Digital Strategy
Area of county / stakeholders affected: The digital strategy covers the whole force and supports the delivery of the force plan. The strategy therefore covers the whole county and the people who reside and work within it.
Report by: Jennifer Housego Date of report: 3 rd March 2021 Enquiries to: Jennifer Housego – Head of Digital Change

1. Purpose of the report

The new digital strategy sets out our approach and priorities in terms of how we operate as a digitally skilled, equipped, and enabled force, use technology to support and safeguard our community and also tackle digital threat, harm and risk in the digital age. The strategy provides context for the approach and sets out how the force will align with the national approach agreed by the NPCC and the APCC in their joint Digital, Data and Technology Strategy (DDaT) published in 2020.

The strategy covers the next five years and provides a persistent guide to change through 10 core principles which can be used to set priorities and allocate resources. This is the full version of the Essex strategy, and the internal communications team are currently developing a shorter version for publication which will be available shortly.

The digital strategy was approved by COG in March 2021.

2. Recommendations

To note and endorse the approach set out in the strategy.

3. Benefits of the proposal

The digital strategy helps set the force direction relative to the development of digital capability. In addition, it sets out how the force aligns to the national strategy, and the core principles can be used to set priorities and allocate resources.

4. Background and proposal

The digital strategy replaces the previous joint Essex and Kent version developed in 2015/2016 and is in line with current technology and threat, harm, and risk. The strategy brings together previously agreed activities and priorities developed as part of the force response to the national Digital Intelligence and Investigation Programme and resets them in accordance with the DDaT.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

No alternative options have been considered and rejected.

6. Police and Crime Plan

The strategy supports the force plan and together with other force strategies is part of a cohesive document set which sets out the direction for Essex Police, who we are and what we do. Capability building under the strategy and its priorities will deliver against all 7 of the priorities contained within the Police and Crime Plan.

7. Police operational implications

The strategy has been subject to wide consultation across the force as part of its development, and in this context has been through a number of versions prior to final sign off by COG.

8. Financial implications

The strategy itself does not have a financial element but provides a framework that can be used to make decisions about current and future products that deliver or support building digital capability in any form. This could range from how we train our officers to operate in the digital age to how we keep our communities and the most vulnerable safe from cyber-crime.

9. Legal implications

There are no legal implications with the development of the strategy.

10. Staffing

There are no staffing implications as a consequence of the strategy.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

There are no diversity or equality implications in the development of the strategy, but full consideration to all equality and diversity matters will be given in the implementation of the strategy.

12. Risks

There are no associated risks recorded on the force risk register.

13. Governance Boards

Essex Police Chief Officer Group (COG) 10/03/2021
Essex Police Strategic Board 10/06/2021

14. Background papers

Essex Police Digital Strategy

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.

Chief Executive / M.O.

Sign: 

Print: Darren Horsman - Deputy M.O.

Date: 25 June 2021

Chief Finance Officer / Treasurer

Sign: 

Print: Julia Berry

Date: 28 June 2021

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:

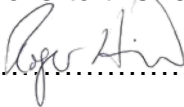
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Date redaction carried out:

<p><u>Treasurer / Chief Executive Sign Off – for Redactions only</u></p> <p>If redaction is required, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed.</p> <p>Sign:</p> <p>Print:</p> <p>Chief Executive/Treasurer</p>
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Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: ROGER HIRST

PFCC

Date signed: 2 July 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

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Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: