

PFCC Decision Report

Report reference number: 053-22

Classification: Not Protectively Marked

Title of report:

One-Month Extension to the current Police Services Agreement for Policing Services provided at Stansted Airport by Essex Police

Area of county / stakeholders affected: Stansted Airport / OPC Command Team

Report by: Paul Knapp – 7F Commercial

Chief Officer: DCC Prophet

Date of report: 31st March 2022

Enquiries to:

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1. Executive Summary

Essex Police currently provides policing services at Stansted Airport under a Police Services Agreement (PSA). The agreement was entered into in 2018 with the airport operators Manchester Airport Group (MAG). The current agreement commenced on 1st April 2018 for a four-year period and expires on 31st March 2022.

Negotiations have been ongoing with MAG since November 2021 to renew the PSA for a further period, but unfortunately these negotiations have yet to be concluded. This is in part due to Essex Police introducing a new PSA template agreement that has been prepared on behalf of UK police forces by BlueLight Commercial (BLC) and is designed better to protect police interests both commercially and financially. Airport operators were not consulted by BLC when producing the new template agreement, and other forces who police MAG owned airports have not yet had to renew their PSAs, therefore Essex Police is leading on introducing the new template with MAG, so finalising the document has taken longer than expected.

In addition, MAG is querying the annual charge calculated by Essex Police Finance and negotiations on the final agreed amount for 2022-2023 are still ongoing. These are expected to be concluded shortly, following which the new PSA agreement can be finalised and agreed by both parties.

However, in view of the above, a one-month extension to the current PSA is required whilst the negotiations conclude. The maximum charge to MAG by Essex Police for the one-month extension is £483,184 and requires PFCC approval.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that, to ensure contractual coverage continues until the new PSA is in place, a one-month extension to the current PSA for the provision of policing services at Stansted Airport is approved and that the attached Change Amendment Form 009 is signed by / on behalf of the PFCC.

3. Background to the Proposal

The background to this request is as per the Executive Summary shown above. A further decision report will be submitted shortly, once the terms of the new PSA have been finalised with MAG.

4. Proposal and Associated Benefits

The key benefit of having the extension in place is to protect the PFCC and Essex Police should MAG default on the payment of sums due for the provision of the service.

5. Options Analysis

The only other option other than to agree the one-month extension to the PSA is to not extend, which would leave both the PFCC and Essex Police at contractual risk until the new long-term PSA is agreed and completed.

6. Consultation and Engagement

Consultation has taken place between the OPC Airport Commander, Essex Police Finance, 7F Commercial and MAG. There has been no other external consultation.

7. Strategic Links

The continuation of policing services at Stansted Airport supports the Police and Crime Plan in providing a policing presence at a 'designated' UK Airport for the prevention and detection of crime.

8. Police operational implications

Stansted Airport is a designated airport under the Aviation Security Act 1982. In accordance with the Act, the policing of the airport must be undertaken by Essex

Police, with a PSA in place showing the services to be provided and the charges to be made as agreed between the parties.

9. Financial implications

The cost of the provision of policing services at Stansted Airport is calculated by Essex Police Finance and for this one-month extension period is set as a maximum charge to MAG of £483,184.

10. Legal implications

There are no legal implications arising from this decision.

11. Staffing implications

There are no staffing implications arising from this decision.

12. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications

There are no Equality, Diversity and Inclusion implications arising from this decision.

13. Risks and Mitigations

Should the one-month extension not be agreed, then there is a risk that MAG could possibly not pay the charge for April 2022 when invoiced and Essex Police would need to pursue reimbursement through the courts. Having the extension agreement in place mitigates this risk in part. However, the relationship between Essex Police and MAG is very good so the eventuality of this risk materialising is very low.

14. Governance Boards

The extension and subsequently this decision report have been discussed at the monthly PSA Review Meeting held between the Airport OPC Command, Essex Police Finance and 7F Commercial.

15. Links to Future Plans

Once negotiations have concluded with MAG, a further decision report will be submitted in relation to the new PSA that is being drafted for consideration and signing by / on behalf of the PFCC.

16. Background Papers and Appendices

There are no background papers, but Change Amendment Form 009 is attached for consideration and signing by / on behalf of the PFCC.

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the PFCC's Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Chief Executive / M.O.

Sign: 

Print: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 28 April 2022

Chief Finance Officer

Sign: 

Print: Janet Perry.....

Date: 2 May 2022.....

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)

However the Change Amendment Form is not to be published as it contains Restricted information

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:

As set out above, the Change Amendment Form is not to be published as it contains Restricted information

Date redaction carried out:

Chief Finance Officer / 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:

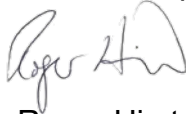
Print:

Chief Executive / Chief Finance Officer

Date signed:

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: Roger Hirst

PFCC

Date signed: 3 May 2022

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....
.....

Sign:

Print:

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date signed: