

**THE POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR
LEICESTERSHIRE**

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

PAPER MARKED

Report of	CHIEF CONSTABLE
Date	FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2016 – 1:00 p.m.
Subject	NATIONAL ARMED POLICING UPLIFT PROGRAMME
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Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is inform the Police and Crime Panel of the progress for the increase of the armed policing capability within EMOpSS - the East Midlands Operations Support Service - as part of the National Armed Policing Uplift Programme - and as information in relation to the Mercury News article on 1st August 2016.

Recommendations

2. To note the contents of the report.

Background

3. The National Security Council has endorsed the East Midlands to uplift by two Armed Response Vehicles (ARVs). Areas have been assessed against crowded place and infrastructure and the locations that have been identified are Leicester and Nottingham.
4. The expectation is the delivery of ARV numbers not ARV officer numbers. 13 officers per ARV is indicative – if a force can deliver the effect based on fewer officers this is acceptable to the objectives of the uplift. The deployments are to be based on risk – flexing the number of ARVs to match the times crowded places are populated. (Chief Constables Council 20th April 2016)
5. EMOpSS has a Roads and Armed Policing Team (RAPT) that currently deploys nine dual role Roads and Armed Response Vehicles (RARVs) 24/7 across four forces - Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire - two of which work from Leicestershire Police Headquarters.
6. The uplift proposal is to provide an additional 24hr RARV based in Leicester and a 16hr RARV based in Nottingham.
7. Using the criteria of crowded places and threat/risk led to consideration for the Leicester based RARV to be 24/7 allowing for coverage of East Midlands Airport (EMA) in the early hours of the morning, and the Nottingham base RARV to be deployed when the city is at its busiest, generally from 0900 – 0100hrs Monday to

Saturday and 1000 – 1800hrs on a Sunday. The structure and establishment of EMOpSS relevant to this paper is as follows;

- Roads Armed Policing Team (RAPT) 145 Police Constable Authorised Firearms Officers (PC AFOs - 37 are based at Leicestershire - including five funded by the EMA Policing Services Agreement)
 - Tactical Armed Policing Team (TAPT) 36 PC AFOs
 - Tactical Roads Policing Team (TRPT) 60 PCs (including four Road Crime Team)
8. Several options were considered and reviewed when it was expected that the uplift required two ARVs with staff, however following the Chief Council meeting in April 2016 the focus changed. This allows EMOpSS to provide the effect of providing two additional RARVs, with a reduced requirement to increase AFOs.
 9. The following uplift proposal was agreed by Chief Constable Rhodes at the EMOpSS Strategic Management Board on 22nd August 2016;
 10. As the Nottingham based RARV is mainly days and lates this role will be provided by the TAPT.
 11. To provide a 24/7 RARV in Leicester needed an increase in resource and it was agreed to increase the RAPT strength by 10 PC AFOs to facilitate this. The establishment at Leicester will therefore be increased to 47 PCs
 12. The posts will be transferred, four from the TAPT and six from the TRPT.
 13. Four additional RARVs will be purchased, to provide sufficient resilience in fleet for the uplift, and will be based at both Leicester and Nottingham.
 14. Training for these additional posts has been planned. With regards to the Mercury article the 21 officers that were trained were officers from all four forces and were distributed to the vacancies within each force. Leicestershire was fully staffed. To provide the additional officers for the ARV uplift and to fill existing vacancies in the other forces, training courses are taking place in September 2016 and January 2017.

Finance

15. £143M has been allocated nationally over the next five financial years to the Counter Terrorism Policing Grant. This funding will be sequenced as follows:
 - £34M 2016/17
 - £32M 2017/18
 - £29M 2018/19
 - £24M 2019/20
 - £24M 2020/21
16. The uplift is requested to be in place by 31st March 2017. The East Midlands Region has been allocated £1,354,500 this financial year. This is divided into £80k capital and the £1,274,500 revenue.
17. The funding for ARV uplifts is currently based on the cost of initial training, continuous professional development training, and all equipment, weaponry and vehicles. It is not currently based on the payment of salary costs.

Benefits

18. The benefit of adopting this approach enables the increase of RARVs to take place based on threat and risk, and both the TRPT and TAPT will continue to provide specialist capability in their recognised roles.
19. The transference of TRPT posts to the RAPT continues to provide resilience in the policing of the road network as the RAPT provide a combined functionality.
20. The Road Policing Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment has also identified that the TRPT has an over capacity in terms of posts, and this would assist in providing a more focused approach.

Risks

21. The most significant risk associated with this proposal would be the perception that the number of Roads Policing Officers is reducing. However as it is a combined role, it actually provides greater resilience for the road network as there will be a minimum of 11 RARVs being deployed, 10 of them 24/7.

Summary

22. The report has provided the following information to the Police and Crime Panel regarding the National Armed Policing Uplift Programme;
 - EMOpSS capability will increase by two RARVs.
 - The RAPT establishment will increase at Leicester by 10 PC AFOs enabling a third 24/7 RARV in Leicestershire
 - National funding from the Counter Terrorism Policing Grant has been allocated to assist in the uplift.

Implications

Financial:	Financial implications can be found in the body of the report at points 15 - 17.
Legal:	None.
Equality Impact Assessment:	An equality impact assessment for the recruitment of officers has been completed.
Risks and Impact:	Risk and impact can be found in the body of the report at point 21.
Link to Police and Crime Plan:	Chapter Nine – Contributing to regional and national threats – the Strategic Policing Requirement. 9.3 Counter Terrorism.

List of Appendices

None applicable to this report

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