

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**UPDATE ON FUTURE POLICE ESTATE
27 June 2019****1. SUMMARY**

This paper provides a progress update in relation to the future estate, following the purchase of a site in Leatherhead for the new Surrey Police headquarters.

2. BACKGROUND

A strategic business case for major change to support the PCC's 'force fit for the future' agenda, was supported by the PCC in April 2017. A business change programme was established to take forward the following key elements:

- A radical re-structure of the force estate, to include provision of a new operational HQ and east division hub
- Provision of modern, efficient working environments that support staff wellbeing and engagement
- Widespread introduction of modern, agile working practices supported by appropriate technology
- Associated culture change, promoting a positive culture of trust, empowerment and collaborative working.

A full appraisal of estate model options was conducted, involving consultation with partners, leading to a decision to pursue a model which would replace a number of existing sites, including the Mount Browne HQ in Guildford, with a single new purpose-built facility in the Leatherhead/ Dorking area.

Following an extensive search and the completion of due diligence, a preferred site on Cleeve Road, Leatherhead was acquired by the Police and Crime Commissioner at a total cost of £21,589,769 on 15 March 2019.

The new site will become an operational hub housing specialist teams as well as chief officers and senior leadership team, support, corporate functions and training facilities. It will replace the existing Mount Browne HQ and Woking Police Station in addition to replacing Reigate Police Station as the main Eastern divisional base. Neighbourhood Policing Teams will continue to operate from all eleven boroughs, including Woking and Reigate.

Further sites at Burpham and Godstone where the Roads Policing Team and Tactical Firearms Unit are based will also be moved to the new location.

3. Progress update

The first Building the Future project board following the site acquisition was chaired by Senior Responsible Officer DCC Jeremy Burton, on 4 April 2019. The Police and Crime Commissioner is represented by his Chief Executive at this meeting.

A high level indicative timeline is in place, with completion of the build project estimated for 2024.

Before moving to the design phase, the PCC has given his approval for without prejudice commercial negotiations with an existing tenant, and these remain ongoing.

A key next step in the timeline is to determine the desired approach to delivery of the design and build project. This will dictate the type of project management and supply-side skills and experience required, as well as influencing the internal, client-side resource requirements.

An independent consultancy has been appointed to research options for the delivery approach, which will inform the next project board on 1 August 2019, before presentation and recommendations made to the PCC.

A disposal strategy for sites within the project scope is being developed by advisors. Early engagement is underway with key partners regarding both the disposal and planning for the future, including by their invitation the attendance of BTF programme director at the Mole Valley Joint Infrastructure Group on 6 June 2019.

The PCC is working with legal advisors and Surrey Police to finalise the formal governance arrangements for the Building the Future Programme. These will establish a formal link with the existing Scheme of Governance and set out specific arrangements appropriate for a programme of this scale and complexity. These will include an overarching executive board chaired by the PCC, with the first meeting scheduled to take place on 8 August 2019, as well as regular accountability meetings with the force to discuss progress against the timeline.

The PCC continues to retain his own, independent professional assurance in respect of this project, which will be utilised throughout the project and included within formal governance arrangements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Police and Crime Panel note the progress in relation to the new estates model.

LEAD OFFICER: Lisa Herrington, Chief Executive (Interim)

**TELEPHONE
NUMBER:** 01483 630 200

E-MAIL: Lisa.herrington@surrey.pnn.police.uk

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