Collaboration Agreements Action Update for 18th September 2019

Introduction

At the panel meeting in June a report was presented on collaboration arrangements in place between Surrey Police and Sussex Police and between Surrey Police and the South East region. The panel asked for information on what collaborative efforts are in place with other police forces.

Detail

Surrey Police has two main collaborative police partnerships. The first is with Sussex Police – bi-lateral collaboration and sharing of services such as specialist crime, operations, digital services and contact. The second is a South East regional collaboration which covers specialist policing areas such as counter terrorism and tackling serious and organised crime as well as future planning for joined up information technology. These were both detailed in the paper to the panel in June.

The panel asked what other collaborations were in place with other police forces. Any other arrangements are all provision of national services. These are all where it makes more business sense, financially or for service provision, to have a national service rather than regional or force based. These are all governed through what are called 'Section 22a agreements'. Section 22a of the Police Act 1996 enables Chief Officers of the police and local policing bodies as defined in that Act and other parties to make an agreement about the discharge of functions by officers and staff where it is in the interests of the efficiency or effectiveness of their own and other Police Force areas.

This reports covers agreements signed by the PCC since 2015.

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Section 22a	Brief detail	Decision date	Financial implications for Surrey
National Police Air Service (NPAS)	The Secretary of State made an order in 2012 under Section 23FA of the Police Act 1996 to specify air support as a function to be carried out through a single national collaboration agreement for England and Wales. Delivered by a lead force model under West Yorkshire Police. PCCs are parties of the NPAS Collaboration Agreement and play a key role in the overall governance of the NPAS Strategic Board as stated within the NPAS Collaboration Agreement.	2012 National order	Yes – through an annual formula
National Police Co-ordination Centre (NPoCC)	National Police Coordination Centre is responsible for coordinating the deployment of police officers and staff from across UK policing to support forces during large scale events, operations and in times of national crisis for example large scale flooding and civil emergencies. Hosted by the Metropolitan Police Service. The Section 22a agreement sets out operation, governance and finance arrangements.	2015	Yes – detailed in agreement
Civil Nuclear	National agreement for deployment of civil nuclear armed officers if required (secret agreement)	2015 (Not published)	On deployment
Forensic Analytical Services	Formation of a new, 19 force collaboration under the auspices of the West and South Coast Consortium. Avon and Somerset PCC will act as the 'host force' for the purposes of this agreement. The agreement will allow the forces to work collaboratively to procure forensic analytical services following the expiration of existing contracts in March 2017	2016	Yes – national agreements in place for forensic provision

Criminal Records Office (ACRO)	ACRO is a national unit which organises the management of criminal record information and improves links between criminal records and biometric information. It works with police forces and other law enforcement agencies throughout the UK. Hosted by Hampshire. S22a sets out how ACRO will operate, funding arrangements and governance.	2016	Yes – detailed in agreement
National Ballistics Intelligence Service - NABIS	NABIS is one of four national units that was established following the creation of the National Police Chiefs Council in 2014. NABIS aims to provide a world-leading intelligence capability that ensures UK law enforcement agencies can quickly solve crimes where firearms have been used. The S22A agreement clarifies funding, governance and staffing arrangements.	2017	Yes – detailed in agreement
Modern Slavery Transformation Fund	The purpose of the agreement is to create a national team led by a Lead Force which shall be responsible for supporting the NPCC Modern Slavery Lead to improve the police response across England and Wales to Modern Slavery	2018	No
National Police Chiefs Council – amendment	The NPCC is hosted by the Metropolitan Police. The S22a amendments are designed to better explain the arrangements for the delivery of the NPCC including governance, accountability and performance management.	2018	No
National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service – NACVIS	The key objectives of the S22A agreement are to set up and define the functions and responsibilities and governance of the NACVIS. NACVIS has its own designated budget and reserves with freedom to operate within the boundaries of the Agreement and is led by a host force.	2018	No

National Wildlife Crime Unit – NWCU	The key objectives of the S22A agreement are to set up and define the functions and responsibilities and governance of the NWCU. NWCU has its own designated budget and reserves with freedom to operate within the boundaries of the Agreement and is led by a host force.	2018	No
National Police Freedom of Information and Data Protection Unit - NPFDU	The key objectives of the S22A agreement are to set up and define the functions and responsibilities and governance of the NPFDU. NPFDU has its own designated budget and reserves with freedom to operate within the boundaries of the Agreement and is led by a host force.	2018	No
Single On-line Home	Single Online Home (SOH), offers the public an easy to use, digital platform where they can communicate effectively with their local police force. Essentially, SOH will be a 'digital front counter' or digital 101 service. The SOH platform is being delivered under a contract to the Mayor's Office for Policing & Crime (MOPAC - the Host Force) and the initial contract runs for two years with the ability to extend twice for a further year in each case. The s22 Agreement sets out the intended framework for access to the Platform, how it will operate and determines the rights, responsibilities and liabilities between the parties.	2019	Yes – detailed in agreement

Every Section 22a agreement follows a national consultation process and is drawn up with legal advice. They are signed by all Chief Constables and PCCs (or equivalent). A decision making record for each Section 22a agreement is also published on the PCC's website, unless there is an operationally sensitive reason for non-publication – for example where the agreement details levels of operational resources such as firearms officers. In some cases services are provided through national funding, e.g. the Modern Slavery Transformation Fund, and have no financial implications for the PCC. In other cases, e.g. National Air Support, the agreement involves a financial contribution, which is set out in the agreement.

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