



REPORT TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

REPORT BY: ALAN BROWN – FINANCE MANAGER

DATE: 3 SEPTEMBER 2014

TITLE: POLICE INNOVATION FUND 2014-15 – RAPID HIT DNA INITIATIVE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 25 July 2014 the Minister for Policing informed the PCC of the successful bid to the 2014/15 Police Innovation Fund in relation to a pathfinder project for the introduction of Rapid DNA, with funding of £339,990 in 2014/15 and £153,122 in 2015/16 being approved.

The project involves collaboration between Key Forensic Services Limited (a commercial forensic provider) and the Constabulary to conduct a “field trial” for the Rapid HIT device for a period of 6 months. The device will be housed within the Constabulary to allow the loading of DNA crime samples “on-site” and radically improve efficiency in the time taken to obtain a profile. The device reduces the processing time for obtaining a DNA profile to around 2 hours. The initiative uses real case work examples which will be verified by conventional profiling methods. Key Forensic Services have now submitted a quotation for the purchase and installation of the device at a cost of £248,497 exclusive of VAT including 3 year maintenance.

RECOMMENDATION

The PCC is asked to :-

approve the inclusion of a scheme in the capital programme for the RapidHIT DNA at a total cost of £249,000 financed by a contribution from the Police Innovation Fund

approve the waiving of Standing Order No.3 to allow an order to be raised with Key Forensic Services Ltd at a value of £248,497

Decision taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire:

Original decision, as set out in the attached report, approved without amendment (please delete as appropriate)	YES	NO
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Original decision required to be amended and decision as detailed below:

The reasons for the amended decision are as detailed below:

Police and Crime Commissioner: Comments

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The PCC is asked to consider any personal / prejudicial interests he may have to disclose in relation to the matter under consideration in accordance with the law, the Nolan Principles and the Code of Conduct.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation.

<p>Signed:</p> <p>Police and Crime Commissioner</p> <p>Date:</p>	<p>Signed:</p> <p>Chief Officer:</p> <p>Date:</p>
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REPORT TO POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

14 AUGUST 2014

POLICE INNOVATION FUND 2014-15 – RAPID HIT DNA INITIATIVE

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The National DNA Database (NDNAD) is supporting this initiative already working with Key Forensics to facilitate the searching of RapidHIT profiles on the database for trial purposes.

After the initial period there will be a further 6 month period of development and evaluation with the intention to integrate it into the Constabulary business processes. A number of hypothetical options will be considered and evaluated to establish the most cost effective means of using the equipment. This will enable other Forces and Agencies who may wish to utilise this new technology in the future, to be furnished with cost benefit information.

The benefits of the technology were specified in the bid for Innovation Fund support and impact favourably around public confidence and operational efficiencies and effectiveness.

A number of bids were received by the Home Office on investigating and trialling the use of RapidDNA solutions with a bid from Nottinghamshire also being approved. As a condition of the funding the Home Office expect both Forces to work collaboratively on their trials to ensure the results are as comprehensive and complementary as possible, and that we both secure the best value for money. Evidence of this collaborative working will be required before any payment is made by the Home Office. This work has already commenced with an initial meeting between the Managing Director of Key and the Forensic Leads for Nottinghamshire and Lancashire. Monthly project board meetings have been arranged between the three parties. The installation of the kits and the training will take place in September with the project going live at the beginning of October. The Home Office Centre for Applied Science and Technology (CAST) will be informed of progress throughout the trial.

Financial Implications

The bid to the Home Office and the funding approved are indicated below:-

Year	Costs	Funding Requested	Approved	Balance met by Constabulary
	£	£	£	£
2014/15				
Purchase of Device (inc 3 year maintenance)	277,000	277,000	277,000	-
Cartridges/Consumables	121,800	121,800	62,990	58,810
Parallel analysis	68,500			68,500
IT set up	3,000			3,000
Staff costs - 2 operators	69,600			69,600
SED Upgrade	2,750			2,750
Consumables	5,000			5,000
Training	9,000			9,000
Accommodation	10,000			10,000
Total	566,650	398,800	339,990	226,660
2015/16				
Cartridges/Consumables	177,604	177,604	153,122	24,482
Staff costs - 2 operators	69,600			69,600
UKAS – extension to scope	8,000			8,000
Total	255,204	177,604	153,122	102,082

The support from the Innovation fund was approved at a level of 60% of costs.

In 2014/15, the balance to be met by the Constabulary, totalling £226,660, will be contained within the Chief Constable's delegated budget. Savings are currently being made on the FSS/DNA budgets to meet any additional costs prior to 31 March 2015.

The financial impact in 2015/16 and future years will be considered as part of the development and evaluation stage and as part of the budget setting process.

There are however two issues to consider for 2014/15. Firstly, the purchase of the device is capital expenditure and therefore there is a requirement to include a scheme in the 2014/15 capital programme. Secondly, as this is a collaborative "field trial" with Key Forensic Services it is not appropriate to seek tenders as specified in Standing Orders Relating to Contracts. Key Forensic Services have submitted a quotation of £248,497 exclusive of VAT including 3 year maintenance.