



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

REPORT TO : STRATEGIC SCRUTINY MEETING – 12TH JANUARY 2016

REPORT BY: SUPT IAN DAWSON

TITLE: REGIONAL COLLABORATION

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report advises the Commissioner of the current regional collaboration landscape.

2. Decision Required

- 2.1 The Commissioner is requested to note the report.

3. Information

- 3.1 Lancashire Constabulary is proactive in seeking opportunities to collaborate to improve efficiencies, reduce demand and deliver a quality service to the communities of Lancashire. The Force also seeks to develop collaboration through integration, examples of which are outlined below in police and non-police collaborations.

- 3.2 Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC) commented in the 2015 HMIC Police Effectiveness Efficiency and Legitimacy Inspection Efficiency Review that:

“The constabulary has collaborated in a number of areas to save money and improve efficiency. There are formalised arrangements with Lancashire County Council (for back office administrative services) and with Cumbria Constabulary for training and learning development. The constabulary is developing relationships with Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and the North West Ambulance Service to assist with missing and vulnerable people. The constabulary also works at a regional level with neighbouring police forces to share some specialist policing services, such as motorway policing.”

3.3 Learning and Development

A good example of traditional collaboration is the sharing of the learning and development department between Lancashire and Cumbria Constabularies. The department head reports to a joint learning and development board. An update on the support provided to both constabularies is discussed as well progress on the collaboration between the two services. This allows the Constabulary to be confident that the shared arrangement is providing what was intended and that training reflects the changing demand being faced by staff. Lancashire Constabulary currently has 44 Police Officers engaged within this collaborative work.

3.4 North West Regional Organised Crime Unit - TITAN

The specialist functions delivered by TITAN are as follows (delivered on behalf of all six regional forces including Lancashire):

Regional Organised Crime Team – proactive investigation syndicates

Regional Intelligence Bureau

Financial Investigation (including the Regional Asset Recovery Team)

Regional Cyber Crime Team

Regional Fraud Investigation Team

Government Agency Intelligence Network

Regional Protected Persons Unit

Regional Prison Intelligence Unit

Regional Technical Support Unit

Regional Confidential Unit (5 forces not including Cumbria)

TITAN is comprised of 336 Police Officer and Staff posts with a budget of approx. £18.3m. Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) Ward from Merseyside is the regional lead for Serious and Organised Crime. Lancashire Constabulary has 16 Police Officers working within TITAN.

3.5 The North West Counter Terrorism Unit (NW CTU)

The NW CTU has a total revenue budget of £24m, a capital budget of £1.4m and includes 442 staff posts. The NW CTU forms part of the National Counter Terrorism Network and is subject to national tasking to determine its operational priorities. The threat and risk associated with terrorism remains the responsibility of individual Chief Constables and Greater Manchester Police (GMP) is the regional lead for the North West. NW CTU provides governance and specialist support for Lancashire Counter Terrorism Branch. Lancashire Constabulary do not provide any funded posts into NW CTU. It does, however, receive funding for a Channel Prevent coordinator.

3.6 NW Police Underwater Search & Marine Unit

The Underwater Search & Marine Unit is a 6-force collaboration with a total budget of £980k and has 13 staff posts. The unit provides search, recovery and security/defensive services in underwater and marine environments. ACC Roberts from Cheshire is the current regional lead for this collaboration. Lancashire Constabulary has 2 Police Officers within the Unit.

3.7 NW Police Firearms Training Unit

The Firearms Training Unit is a 6-force collaboration responsible for the North West firearms training licence and for the management of the design and delivery of all firearms training/interoperability in the region. This now includes a S.22 collaboration agreement under which 3 regional forces will provide all specialist firearms tactical options to all regional forces. The Unit has a total budget of £480k and has 10 staff posts. ACC Ward from Merseyside is the regional lead for this collaboration. Lancashire is also part of the regional interoperability for Firearms with a commitment of 8 armed response vehicles if a regional request was made. This is a reciprocal agreement if Lancashire was to make the request of the other regional forces.

3.8 The North West Police Motorway Group (NWMPG)

This is a 4-force collaboration (Cheshire, GMP, Lancashire and Merseyside) with a bespoke control room based within Highway's Agency premises and providing a cohesive and integrated police response across the motorway network. It has a total budget circa £1.1m and includes 27 staff posts with ACC Roberts from Cheshire as the regional lead. Lancashire Constabulary has 6 Police Officers per day identified to work within the NWMPG.

3.9 The recent TITAN review has concluded that by using TITAN as a model the North West region has demonstrated that specialist services can be delivered from a regional structure to partner forces on a daily basis and as part of 'business as usual.' This approach could be expanded to other areas of crime and uniformed operations with the objectives of maintaining both service delivery and resilience whilst reducing costs. Specialist crime roles have significant numbers of staff and associated budgets and may be areas that are worthy of consideration in terms of some form of further regional coordination/ management. The same may also be said of uniformed operations such as further enhancement of operational firearms arrangements, or consideration of public order, dogs, horses, search capabilities and contingency planning functions etc. throughout the region.

3.10 Public Order Capability

The national capacity of public order assets is required to be prepared to deal with three separate seats of significant disorder simultaneously for a period of seven days within the UK. The national capacity of public order assets to meet this requirement is set at 297 police support units (PSUs) available for mutual aid deployments. Lancashire is required to provide 11 of the region's 55 PSUs to this national requirement. The region undertakes annual mobilization testing to ensure compliance to mobilise within one hour. Lancashire has met this requirement and takes responsibility for co-ordinating regional mobilization testing.

3.11 Section 22a Collaboration Agreements

Further Section 22a collaboration agreements are in place with the Civil Nuclear Constabulary, National Police Air Service in terms of coverage and response, and the UK Ballistics Intelligence Service.

3.12 Cumbria and Lancashire Strategic Alliance (CALSA)

In August 2015 Lancashire and Cumbria Constabularies agreed to examine strategic alliance opportunities between forces to collaborate. The basis of this agreement was the constabularies working together to improve services to the public and to bring benefits to both constabularies and commissioners, while remaining independent organisations. Each constabulary will have a greater benefit from the alliance than if working as an individual organisation, which would include capability and resilience whilst potentially delivering savings to each force. Chief Superintendent Chris Bithell has worked on the scoping of opportunities under CALSA and continued dialogue is ongoing to identify collaborative opportunities.

3.13 Police and Non Police Collaboration

This is an extensive area of collaborative work by Lancashire Constabulary which includes examples of Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH), Early Action, Child Sexual Exploitation, Custody Detention and Innovation through opportunities explored with academic institutions, for example, University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) and Lancaster University. Blue Light collaboration is developing with Lancashire Fire and Rescue in response to concerns for safety, and North West Ambulance Service in the management of high intensive users and emergency calls. Mental Health triage is also reducing significantly the requirements of front line officers to manage and guard persons with mental health needs.

4 Implications

4.1 Lancashire is within a region which contains two large Metropolitan police force areas, the service Lancashire Constabulary obtains from regional collaborations is proportionate to its commitment.

5 Links to Police & Crime Plan

5.1 Collaboration continues to provide strength and support for an efficient and effective police force, contributing and supporting the Police and Crime Plan priorities, particularly Defending Frontline Policing.

6 Reasons why Restricted

6.1 N/A

7 Background Documents

7.1 None

8 Contact for Further Information

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