

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Notice of Decision



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For Decision or Information	Decision
Date received*:	16 th June 2015
Ref*:	2015.041

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Nottinghamshire Police Dog Kennels

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2013 Nottinghamshire Police approved a business case to rebuild the dog kennels at Police Headquarters. The existing kennels were in a poor state of repair and did not meet the latest animal welfare standards. Repair and upgrading was not viable.

The design and specification were completed in 2013 and the contract put out to tender in early 2014. Concurrent with this Nottinghamshire police was one of four forces that agreed to enter into a regional collaboration of the Operational Support Department. This includes the dog section and led to a regional review of dog section structures and working practices.

As a result of the review, the decision was taken to place a temporary hold on the replacement kennels complex to establish if the kennelling capacity was still required, and if it would be fit for purpose in the new structures.

The review has now been completed and the kennels are still required.

This report is a request for the kennel project to continue to completion.

INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF DECISION: (e.g report or business case)

Nottinghamshire Police dog kennels are in need of significant modernisation and in 2013 a business case outlining several options was submitted to the force.

The preferred option was demolition of the existing facility and rebuild with modern kennel facilities.

Alternatives to reconstruction were considered, including seeking a regional solution and outsourcing the kennelling provision. Both of these options were discounted and the preferred option was approved.

Specification and design work was completed, and the building works put out to tender in early 2014.

Since the initial approval was granted, in April 2014 Nottinghamshire Police entered into a regional collaboration of functions falling under Operations Support, (EMOpSS) which includes Police Dog Sections. The impact of EMOpSS on those functions includes some rationalisation of resources. In practical terms there will be a reduction across the region of some resources, including Police Dogs.

The kennels project was therefore placed on hold whilst the new EMOpSS regional structures were designed, to establish if the kennelling provision would still be necessary or if the requirements

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Notice of Decision

would change.

No contract has been awarded.

Following the inception of EMOpSS a full review has been conducted. Under the New model Nottinghamshire will be a regional training centre and a deployment base for both General Purpose and Specialist Search Dogs. Kennelling facilities are therefore still required.

The proposed Nottinghamshire Kennel re-build remains fit for purpose for the foreseeable future, still meets all elements of animal welfare legislation and would withstand scrutiny around the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.

It is therefore recommended that approval is granted for the kennel project to recommence with immediate effect.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (please include if is it capital or revenue or both. What the split is and the totals being requested. Is this a virement/ something already budgeted for or something that requires additional funding. Are there any savings that can be offered up/or achieved)

The initial budget allocation for the build was £600,000. £29,000 has been spent to-date (design and consultancy) the balance of £571,000 has been carried forward into the current capital budget. Since the original budget allocation, building costs have risen (Estimated 8%-10% by Estates Dept). The overall size and specification of the kennels is therefore being reviewed through EMSCU to ensure it remains within budget.

Signature: 
Chief Finance Officer

Date: 25th June 2015

Is any of the supporting information classified as non-public or confidential information**?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please state under which category number from the guidance**				

DECISION: To continue with the dog kennel project within allocated budget.

OFFICER APPROVAL

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that the appropriate advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signature: 
Chief Executive

Date: 6/7/15.

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Notice of Decision

DECLARATION:

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and I take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any interests are indicated below:

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

9/7/15

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

** See guidance on non public information