

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Notice of Decision



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

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For Decision or Information	Decision
Date received*:	7 th December 2016
Ref*:	2016.054

*to be inserted by Office of PCC

TITLE: Taser – Deployment to Nottinghamshire Police Officers

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In September 2016 Supt McFarlane conducted a review of Taser deployment across Nottinghamshire, at the request of the Chief Constable. A copy of this review is attached to the Business Case.

Conclusion of the review

There are clear benefits in amending Taser deployment for the safety of the public, safety of officers and reducing the risk of injury to suspects included within those benefits are:

- Taser will be deployed far quicker to incidents; reducing the risk of serious injury or death occurring at them;
- Reduced risk to injury for officers when attending incidents involving edged weapons;
- Reduced risk of injury to suspects when being arrested. Taser is highly effective as a show of force, achieving compliance in most situations without discharge. Even when discharged, it is less likely to cause injury than a baton strike;
- Increased capability to deal with a terrorist incident involving determined attack with edged weapons;
- Reduced delays in operations to arrest suspects identified as potentially violent or where Taser support is required;
- Risks currently identified at shift changeover times and caused by simultaneous incidents are removed;
- Geographical cover is significantly improved;
- Risks associated with high speed & distance response journeys are significantly reduced;
- It will free up EMOpSS resources across the region, giving greater capacity to respond to firearms incidents;
- Reduced mileage & fuel costs to EMOpSS vehicles;
- Reduced inefficiencies caused by EMOpSS units providing extra attendance at incidents that could be resolved by response;
- Potentially reduced complaints and injuries arising from use of force such as batons & CS;
- Potentially reduced absence of officers injured in violent incidents;
- Operational officers and also the Federation consistently raise the need for uplift in Taser deployment. Currently, response officers strongly feel they are being sent to incidents involving weapons without the capability to safely resolve them.

The only risks identified are the costs of equipment and training abstractions.

Recommendation

The review recommends that Nottinghamshire Police should amend the deployment of Taser, training 110 response officers to achieve this. This number is identified as the minimum necessary to achieve effective cover across all five shifts at all of the ten response hubs. Even at that number, it would not be possible to guarantee a Taser equipped officer on duty at every hub at all times – cover would sometimes be required at

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incidents from a neighbouring area.

The improved X2 model Taser will soon be available. There are several reasons why it is significantly more effective and safer for both officers and also subjects when used. The review recommends that the X2 should be the model deployed.

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

Business Case

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)

£60,400 in Capital Funding 2016/2017.
£69,300 in one-off Revenue costs 2017/2018.
£34,360 in ongoing Revenue costs.

Signature: 
Chief Finance Officer

Date: 28 December 2016

Is any of the supporting information classified as non-public or confidential information**?

Yes

X

No

If yes, please state under which category number from the guidance**

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DECISION: To approve the funding required to support the training and equipment costs for taser deployment.

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: 28 December 2016

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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:

22/12/16.

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** See guidance on non public information