

Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme

<p>Lead Member: Lead Officer: Project Manager: Business Sponsors:</p>	<p>Cllr Peter McDonald AC Julian Parsons Marie Crothers DCFO Mick Osborne</p>	<p>Project Objectives: The Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme will provide a new communication system for the 3 emergency services and other public safety users. This system will be called the Emergency Services Network (ESN). It will replace the current Airwave radio network. BFRS forms part of the South Central Region to deliver this work and this highlight report will focus on the regional and local delivery into this programme but will also provide high level national updates</p>	<p>Overall RAG</p> 
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<p>Finance</p> 	<p>Plan</p> 	<p>Risks & Issues</p> 	<p>Scope</p> 	<p>Resources</p> 
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Summary – Period dated: June – July 2017

Key Activities

National

- The latest version of the national programme plan has been delayed since the last report – a revised version without new dates but with amended activities was released to us on 27/07/17 for planning purposes. This will be reviewed over the summer period by the Regional Delivery and BFRS teams. The next national version with revised dates will not be available until an independent assessment of the plan is completed on behalf of the new Permanent Secretary, Philip Rutnam. Two reviews of the programme have recently taken place and the the rating for the delivery of the Programme nationally has been revised from Amber/Red to Amber.
- Devices – Handheld: Procurement for handheld devices has started – Evaluation and scoring process begins in August and will run into September – a representative from BFRS will take part in this exercise on behalf of the SC region. Contracts will be awarded in October 2017 and the framework for User Organisations to order from will be available in January 2018.
- Devices – Vehicles: Tender documents for vehicle devices will be available in Autumn 2017 – framework for these devices will be available in Spring 2018. It is likely that these devices will be an interim solution and will be the smaller handheld devices fitted by means of a cradle in vehicles as there is no time to develop a split architecture solution in time ofr transition. They are likely to have a reduced functionality and a number of concerns regarding the method of connectivity to them and method of procurement for peripheral equipment that may be required. The range may be slightly reduced and this would be addressed by the use of an induction loop.
- Devices – General: Small scale testing appears to be going well so far and there have been no reports that this stage of the project is beset with difficulties.

- There are, however, concerns regarding whether the systems proposed for the London Underground network and the Ground to Air solution – if issues around these are not resolved then it is likely that the Met Police and London Fire Brigade will not transition as planned – this will have a ‘knock-on’ effect on the remainder of the programme.
- Unofficial confirmation that UOs will not have to be PSN compliant the security arrangements for the network and that those in place for Airwave will be sufficient – this has still to be received formally in writing. Work in this area at the Home Office remains stalled due to resourcing issues
- There will be a re-organisation of support provided to User Organisations by the Delivery Partner KBR which will come into effect in September 2017 – these changes follow a recent survey User Engagement survey.

Regional

- A review of South Central plan activities by the FRS Project Managers had already taken place relating to the previously released plan – this was then reviewed by the BFRS team locally. The latest version will be reviewed over the summer period.
- DNSP – there remains a number of questions regarding what DNSP connections will be required across the region (particularly for BFRS as we are not currently planning to procure a link). A letter from CFO Thelwell was submitted to the Programme posing BFRS specific questions and an email posing Thames Valley queries was also submitted. We have subsequently been informed that members of the BFRS Project team have been identified to a meeting at the Home Office to discuss the BFRS issues further. A request to include representatives from our TV partners has been submitted. – awaiting a response.

- Work continues to complete work identified in the Information Technology Health Check – notification of funding has been received to compete Two Factor Identification work, however we have been asked not to commence this work until further information regarding security requirements is available – other issues will be dealt with by our own ICT department.
- Other workstream meetings continue to take place:
 - Training** – BFRS have completed their early TNA which will be used to feed into the SC TNA. Meetings continue to take place
 - Technical** – meetings have been taking place regularly and concerns regarding DNSP, devices and the Self Service management portal are being reported into the Programme Manager and SC GTM and RIM
 - Fleet** – one meeting has taken place so far – now awaiting further information regarding the types of devices that will be available.
 - Testing & Assurance** – meetings continue to take place to draw up regional requirements for the testing process
 - Ops Policy** – meetings have not been established so far. There has been a change in the Ops Policy lead and a meeting is to be arranged.

Local

- Internal meetings continue to take place monthly
- Monthly reports continue to be submitted by the BFRS Project Manager into the national reporting process
- Work has been completed to submit the BFRS Enrolment information to the central programme
- Completion of a number of technical information tasks to be uploaded into Huddle continues
- Preparation is underway for members of the BFRS Project Team to attend the Home Office regarding the DNSP issue

Priorities for Next Period: June – July 2017

- To review and feedback once the revised national programme plan has been released – remains outstanding as the plan has not been released
- Work will continue on the resolution of the ITHC outcomes
- Preparation of DNSP letter return to the Home Office
- BFRS PM will continue to monitor the central document repository (Huddle) and ensuring that released documents are promulgated to relevant personnel within the organisation – ongoing

Key Milestones	Forecast/ Actual	RAG
National - Review of revised National Programme Plan for Permanent Secretary	Expected Autumn 2017	Yellow
Regional – Review of Programme Plan from a SC regional perspective	June / July 2017	Yellow
Local – Meeting with Home Office regarding DNSP issue		Green

Risk/ Issue	RAG	Description	Mitigating Action
		<i>The South Central Risk Register has been reviewed and can be seen at Appendix A</i>	

Key Decisions Required

None at this stage – for information only