

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority



MEETING	Fire Authority
DATE OF MEETING	10 June 2015
OFFICER	Julian Parsons, Head of Service Development
LEAD MEMBER	Councillor Andy Dransfield
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme (ESMCP)
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme (ESMCP) is a national, Government led, programme designed to provide effective operational communications systems for all emergency services and responders.</p> <p>The Fire Authority received a Briefing Paper as to the background of the project at the Fire Authority meeting 18 February 2015. This paper is an update on the development of this national project.</p> <p>Currently the cross government department project team is developing the business case for the Treasury for the purposes of agreement on funding.</p> <p>The three lots for procurement are currently progressing with the contracts due for award this summer.</p> <p>Lot 1. Delivery Partner</p> <p>Lot 2. User Services</p> <p>Lot 3. Mobile Network Provider</p> <p>The transition in services is due to start in 2017. At this stage we anticipate that Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire and Rescue Service will cut over to the new system in 2018.</p> <p>Each delivery region has been requested to provide an estimate of the required resources locally in the form of a Local Impact Assessment (LIA). This was submitted for the fire services jointly in our delivery area.</p> <p>It is currently anticipated that there is no planned delivery activity required by Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire and Rescue Service during 2015/16. It is estimated that there will start to be resource implications early in 2017. This will require locally provided resources (project management). It is believed there will be DCLG funding for all or part of</p>

	<p>the posts.</p> <p>It is believed that there will be transition funding for all of the new burdens experienced. However, where purchased equipment is considered as an enhancement to local services existing capabilities, then the purchasing service would in all likelihood be expected to fund the difference.</p> <p>Currently this service receives central funding for our use of Airwave. The arrangements for the revenue costs for each service for the replacement system are unclear. Like Airwave the same system will be used by all three Thames Valley Fire and Rescue Services through the Thames Valley Fire Control Service.</p>
ACTION	For information.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the ESMCP programme and progress to date be noted. ii. the fact that the potential costs to the Authority have yet to be identified be noted.
RISK MANAGEMENT	To supplement the identified risks and control measures within the programme and to ensure we consider risks to the Service, the project has been added to the Service Development Risk Register.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	<p>It is anticipated that there may be financial implications for the Authority. However, the amount and the future funding mechanism is unknown at this stage as it is currently being developed by the central programme.</p> <p>DCLG will continue the current funding arrangements for Airwave until Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire and Rescue Service cuts over to the new ESMCP solution.</p>
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	None arising from the recommendations.
HEALTH AND SAFETY	<p>It is expected that appropriate programme governance and controls will manage, control and reduce the risks detailed below:</p> <p>Timing - service and industry capacity and pace of transition</p> <p>Resources - HM Treasury funding, programme funding, service resources</p> <p>Decision making - inability to make timely decisions through devolved governance</p> <p>Coordination of multiple procurements</p> <p>Legal challenge leading to delay</p>

	<p>Transition from existing suppliers</p> <p>Availability of technology and devices</p>
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	<p>The proposals in this report are considered compatible with the provisions of the equality and human rights legislation.</p> <p>It is expected that appropriate centralised programme governance will provide the impact assessments for this programme. We will need to assess local impact as we move to the implementation delivery and transition stage.</p>
USE OF RESOURCES	<p>There is currently no need for direct resources to be dedicated to this project. It is expected that more dedicated resourcing will be required in 2016/17.</p> <p>The agreed LIA is contained in Appendix 1.</p>
PROVENANCE SECTION & BACKGROUND PAPERS	<p>Background</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-emergency-services-mobile-communications-programme</p> <p>Fire Authority ESMCP Briefing Paper 18 February 2015</p>
APPENDICES	<p>Appendix 1- Fire Authority ESMCP Update May 2015</p>
TIME REQUIRED	<p>10 minutes.</p>
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	<p>Julian Parsons</p> <p>jparsons@bucksfire.gov.uk</p> <p>07964 415055</p>