

**INFORMATION REPORT TO
THE THAMES VALLEY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

8th September 2017

PCC RESPONSE TO REGIONAL COLLABORATION QUESTIONS

a. What is currently covered through regional collaboration?

There are 3 different levels of regional collaboration:

- The SE Collaboration Board deals with counter-terrorism (SECTU), regional organised crime (SEROCU) and other specialist capabilities that are best delivered on a regional basis
- The Chiltern Transport Consortium (CTC) deals with vehicle fleet management across TVP, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and the Civil Nuclear Constabulary. Cambridgeshire joined the Consortium on 1st April 2017.
- The bilateral arrangement with Hampshire covers ICT, Information Management (including contact management) and the Joint Operations Unit which provides specialist policing services such as roads policing, firearms and dog support.

b. How is it being governed? (are there any areas of duplication, coterminous issues and any accountability issues)

- The SE collaboration Board which comprises the PCCs and Chief Constables from the 4 police force areas (TV, Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex) meets quarterly. Kent no longer attend these meetings, having joined the eastern Region due to their close collaboration with Essex
- The CTC Board includes PCC and senior force (DCC level) representation from all constituent forces. The Board is scheduled to meet 2-3 times each year.
- The TVP/HC collaboration board comprises PCC and senior force representation. It meets 4 times per year

c. What are the key aspects of the regional framework?

Each collaboration board has agreed membership, its own terms of reference, including meeting frequency. See answer to question (a) above for the different types of collaboration agreement which TVP participates in. The governance arrangements applicable to police collaboration agreements are developed in accordance with the requirements of sections 22A to 22C of the Police Act 1996, as amended by section 89 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

d. Are the planned savings expected from collaboration being achieved?

In TVP all agreed savings are removed from the Force's base budget. Individual savings are tracked at the relevant collaboration boards but the Chief Constable manages his overall budget, using virement powers to ensure the best overall use of resources and to maintain Force spending within the overall approved annual budget.

e. Is collaboration delivering operational effectiveness? (are service standards rising or falling, have differences in Force areas been systematically addressed)

Collaboration is an effective tool to deliver specific operational aims and objectives, particularly when these are best set at regional level due to scale or specialism. In each collaboration meeting PCCs hold the relevant chief constables to account for delivery of their specific policing objectives. In some cases, particularly with SECTU and SEROCU, government grant is delivered at the regional level.

HMIC reviews the effectiveness of partnership working, including collaborations, in their annual PEEL assessments. TVP has been awarded a 'good' grade in 9 of the 10 individual elements of the 2016 PEEL assessment, with a 'good' grade overall.

f. Is there a performance management scorecard?

There isn't a single performance management scorecard that is used consistently across all collaboration activity. Each collaboration board has agreed the specific performance management metrics it will use, as appropriate to the collaborated service or function, to ensure that business is conducted efficiently and effectively

g. Are there business cases/coherent vision for further areas of collaboration?

The PCC and Chief Constable have a legal duty to review all areas of policing activity to identify service areas and opportunities where service delivery can

be delivered more efficiently and effectively in collaboration with other forces and other public and private sector partners.

At a recent SE Collaboration Board meeting the PCCs and Chief Constables agreed which areas of specialist capability should be progressed at the regional level, and the relative priority for developing appropriate business cases

The PCC has recently determined that he does not wish to seek changes to the current governance of fire and rescue services in the Thames Valley, although he will ensure that opportunities for closer collaboration at the operational level are considered and implemented when beneficial to all concerned

Anthony Stansfeld

Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley