



# Police and Crime Strategic Board

18 January 2016

## Chief Constable's Report

### 1. National Issues

#### 1.1.1 'A fair deal for the people of Lincolnshire'

#### 1.1.2 Budget Setting

1.1.3 The Provisional Grant Settlement was announced on 17 December 2015; the headlines of the announcement were:

- A flat rate reduction in grant funding (Police Grant plus ex-DCLG Grant plus the Welsh funding and Welsh top-up) of 0.6% in cash terms. For Lincolnshire this equates to a £337k reduction.
- No PCC will face a cash reduction in Formula Funding plus legacy council tax grants plus NICC plus precept income (as long as they maximise their precept).
- The provisional settlement covers just one year and confirms the previously announced council tax flexibility (£5) for the 10 lowest precepting force areas and referendum limit of 2% for all other forces.
- Top-slices have reduced to £218m in 2016-17. However, the Home Office have also introduced a new Transformational Fund worth £76.4m in 2016-17 to fund, amongst other things, firearms
- Legacy Council Tax funding is still separately identifiable and has increased slightly (£4.2m) in 2016-17 to include the 2015-16 Freeze Grant allocations. Lincolnshire's allocation of £6,833k was confirmed.
- No mention of reserves at all in the written ministerial statement.

1.1.4 The consultation period ends in January, with the deadline for submissions of 25 January at 5pm.

1.1.5 The announcement was positive in that the cash reduction in Grant was significantly lower than that projected in the first iteration of the budget. However, it is a continuation of the old grant allocation methodology which does not address the low level of grant which Lincolnshire receives.

1.1.6 The effect of this announcement together with expenditure plans have been included within a report on the Budget forming the next stage of the formal budget and precept setting process.

1.1.7 The Chief Constable has written to local MPs to keep them up to date on matters relating to funding, and will also be contacting Home Office civil servants, with a view

to arranging a meeting with the Policing Minister to discuss the funding position in light of the grant settlement.

## **2 Regional Issues**

### **2.1 East Midlands Specialist Operations Unit (EMSOU) – update**

- 2.1.1 DCC Alan Goodwin, Derbyshire, is due to retire at the end of March and following a selection process DCC Peter Goodman has been appointed as his successor.
- 2.1.2 DCC Goodman is currently Head of EMSOU, a role he has held since 2010. The East Midlands Chief Constables will now meet and discuss various options as to the future command of EMSOU and agree a suitable selection process to appoint a replacement.

## **3 Local issues**

### **3.1 Mobile Data Project – update**

- 3.1.1 User Acceptance Testing (UAT) has been formally signed off by the force with a number of development items agreed with Airwaves for release in the next version update due this month. The 70 Phase 1 officers have attended their training and are now live with devices. All nine of the initial processes (DASH, Crime Report, Intel, Statements, Sudden Death, Stop Search, TORs and RTC) are installed on the device with third party applications due to be released shortly following the resolution of a number of security issues.
- 3.1.2 Feedback from officers is positive and early report figures show a good number of searches being carried out through the device. The project team are now in the stages of visiting stations to provide drop in sessions and assistance to officers requiring some additional support in the use of the device.
- 3.1.3 Early feedback has identified that Wi-Fi hotspots will be required in certain stations to allow officers to book onto their devices and synchronise information. This was included in the original business case and is now being progressed with IT to look at the options available. The first stations being considered are Horncastle and Gainsborough where officers are currently experiencing issues.

### **3.2 Blue Light Collaboration Project – update**

- 3.2.1 An initial Full Business Case was submitted to the Steering Group on 4 December 2015 and subsequently a Police Innovation Funding bid was submitted to the Home Office on 30 December 2015. It is anticipated it will be the end of March before it will be known whether the bid was successful.
- 3.2.2 There is now the need to undertake significant pieces of work ahead of the Home Office announcement to ensure that the project is in a position to commence to the next phase, should the bid be successful, and to that end the Project Team will prepare a report for the Steering Group detailing what will be required to maximise success.

### **3.3 The Policing Model – Update**

- 3.3.1 A further Police Innovation Funding bid was submitted to assist the force in delivering a transformational change to the policing model by creating the capability and capacity to protect vulnerable people and address new and emerging threats such as online child abuse, cyber enabled crime and modern day slavery while maintaining and where possible improving existing services without generating an increase in revenue requirement above 2015-16 levels.
- 3.3.2 Smarter working through regional collaboration and at neighbourhood level creates the prospect of delivering the new capability while continuing to develop and where possible improve existing services.
- 3.3.3 It has the potential to be a blueprint for other forces, offering a chance to demonstrate, evaluate and learn from, what is possible within a single force in a compelling way that can drive innovation on a much wider scale.
- 3.3.4 As with the Blue Light Collaboration Project, it may be the end of March before it will be known whether the bid was successful.