DECISION RECORD

Decision Record Number 173

This document records a decision taken by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, together with details of the advice he received prior to taking the decision.

Decision taken

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner has taken the decision to:

Approve the Joint Estates Strategy for Police and Fire and Rescue for 2020-2040

Details of advice taken

Operational advice has been provided by both Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer. Professional financial, estates and legal advice has been sought to ensure the decision best supports business need and represents value for money.

Stephen Mold
Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
10th March 2020

END

Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commission

Supporting Report to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

Date of Report	10th March 2020
Subject	**Joint Estates Strategy**
Report Author	Paul Bullen, Director for Delivery

1. Purpose of Report

To outline the Estates Strategy for Police and Fire and Rescue

2. Decision(s) Recommended:

To approve the Joint Estates Strategy for Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service

3. Relevant background / Chronology of Key Events:

The existing Police only strategy was agreed by the PFCC in 2018. Fire and Rescue had no specific estates strategy prior to the transfer of governance to the PFCC.

The PFCC became the Fire and Rescue Authority on 1st January 2019. As part of the business case that was submitted to government to enable the governance change, the PFCC highlighted the desire to bring the estates of police and fire together, to enable greater operational effectiveness and efficiencies.

The police chief officer team has also changed in the time since the previous estate strategy was agreed. A revised operating model for policing is being put in place through FP20 and FP25 (the branding given to the revised change programme in Force) and as a

result the existing estate strategy requires review to ensure it remains fit for operational needs.

The revised joint strategy builds on the principles of the previous police strategy, taking into account the changes that have occurred since then. The strategy importantly must be realistic, achievable, deliverable and affordable.

In early 2019, both chief officer teams were invited to consider their operational requirements for a future estate. In addition, the PFCC's views were sought to understand the strategic drivers for the estate.

During the summer 2019, both chief officer teams provided the PFCC with their broad operational requirements. These highlighted the broad locations that were required to deliver operational business, rather than stipulating that it had to be any particular existing building.

At the same time as meeting operational need for the present, the strategy needs to build in flexibility for the longer term in anticipation of future changes wherever possible. A series of high level principles were therefore agreed between the chief officers and the PFCC. The principles were used to build the detailed strategy and implementation plan.

A working group including representatives from finance, OPFCC and estates and facilities developed the more detailed proposals.

The detailed proposals were discussed through a workshop with the Chief Constable, Chief Fire Officer and PFCC in October 2019.

The working group have refined the strategy based on the feedback at the workshop. The working group are ensuring that the strategy feeds the capital programmes for both organisations and finance colleagues are involved to ensure that the strategy is affordable for both organisations.

The Full Estates Strategy is appended

4. Consultation:

The proposals have been consulted on with both chief officer teams.

5. Compliance Issues:

5.1 Is this a decision of 'significant public interest?'

Yes, the strategy sits the strategic dir3ection for the estate for the next twenty years.

5.2 **Is the recommended decision consistent with the priorities set out in the Northamptonshire Police and Crime Plan 2019/21 and Fire and Rescue Plan 2019**?

Yes. In both documents the emphasis on greater collaboration between the two services is a key facet. Indeed, joint estates is specifically identified as a key deliverable. The strategy will underpin this delivery.

5.3 What are the financial and procurement implications of this decision?

There are both capital costs and receipts, as well as revenue implications of the full estates strategy. Figures have been used to inform the budget processes of both organisations from the estates strategy and overall the strategy is seen as affordable. Individual lines within the estates strategy will have business cases on them before a final decision is take to progress with any individual item on the strategy. In this the full implications will be outlined.

Procurement will be involved in the detailed delivery of different schemes.

5.4 Will further decisions be required?

Yes. As described above, individual schemes will be covered by a business case on which a decision to proceed will be required.

5.5 Legal Implications

None specifically

5.6 Risk Management

Communications will be key to ensure that reputational and organisational risks are not realised from the development and delivery of this strategy. Staff groupings will be affected and they will need full consultation as delivery of the strategy is being considered

5.7 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken?

Individual schemes will include equality impact assessments.

6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):

An Estates Strategy is a requirement. The alternative would have been to complete individual strategies for the two organisations but this would not deliver against the outcomes in either the Fire and Rescue Plan or the Police and Crime Plan.

7. List of background reports used to compile this report:

8. List of appendices accompanying this report (if any):
Estates Strategy