



AVON & SOMERSET POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

PCC DECISION

REF 2016/027

Decision Title: Estates Strategy 2016-2020

Decision summary:

The Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner have approved the Estates Strategy for the next 4 years 2016-2020.

Background or reference to supporting papers:

The Estates Strategy seeks to strike a balance between our physical footprint on the ground in the shape and location of buildings, and people – police officers, PCSO's and other police staff who work together to help our communities be safe and feel safe.

When making decisions about changes to our estate, we consider a number of priorities to help us reach the right conclusion.

- We recognise the importance and value of public and stakeholder opinion and engagement in all new accommodation solutions. We will work with Area Commanders, local councillors and local people to help them understand our thinking behind potential new accommodation solutions, and take their observations and concerns into account in all future decision making.
- We aim to create shared, accessible, flexible, modern workspaces, with partners where possible, to support and encourage an effective and shared approach to problem solving within communities
- We will work hard to ensure our estate supports and encourages collaboration with partners. With all new and major refurbishment schemes, every effort will be made to incorporate the basic backbone infrastructure in support of this aim.
- We understand the importance of maintaining a visible presence in neighbourhoods as a community focal point and a base from which Beat Teams can deploy to go about their day to day business. Where possible we will explore opportunities for Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT's) to share premises with Local Authority partners and/or other Blue Light Services such as fire and ambulance, thereby reducing overheads and encouraging more joint working.
- We will position new response bases on strategic arterial routes, taking account of demand hot-spots whilst also providing optimum response cover for our communities in urban and rural settings.
- We will continue to rationalise our estate by disposing of all old, oversized and inefficient stations and providing alternative, local accommodation that is smaller and more efficient to run whilst ensuring that Neighbourhood Policing Teams always remain within the neighbourhoods they serve, sharing space with partners where appropriate.

- We will ensure our estate supports our work to safeguard vulnerable people by providing bespoke 'soft-suite' interview facilities. We will explore and exploit the potential for direct live-links with the courts and other criminal justice agencies wherever possible.
- To free up space to accommodate the relocation of Avon and Fire and Rescue to Police HQ and facilitate more flexible open plan working we will rationalise/develop the Headquarters site and re-plan existing office accommodation.
- We will regularly review and re-prioritise our capital building programme in light of potential future capital constraints to ensure that we can continue to deliver this strategy.
- We will benchmark the performance of our estate against that of other Police Forces and act on findings that could make us even more efficient.
- With the sustainability officer, we will aim for a programme of continuous improvement line with the principles of ISO 14001 and strive to deliver sustainable property solutions reflecting the 'three pillars of sustainability' and cognisant of the legacy of our decisions for future generations.

Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any declarations of disclosable interest in this matter. Any such interests are disclosed.

The above request has my approval.

Sue Mountbatten Date
Police & Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset

CFO Signatures

(OCC CFO required if decision requested or presented for approval by Constabulary)

[Signature] Date
PCC CFO **OCC CFO**

Other relevant lead officer as required

(e.g PCC CEO, COG lead)

ORCC CEO *J.R. SMITH* *J.R. Smith* Date
Job title **name** **signature**