

Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

Title: Salfords Custody Provision
Decision number: 014/2013
Author and Job Role: Alison Bolton, Chief Executive
Protective Marking: Part One

Background

In December 2009, Surrey Police Authority approved a business case for additional custody capacity for the east of the county, an area where the Force had identified a deficit in provision. The case recommended the purchase of a large warehouse on an industrial development near Salfords, together with the purchase of modular cells. In June 2010, planning permission for the development was refused by the local council and a planning inquiry ensued. The appeal was allowed and logistics for the procurement and build then began.

In late 2011, it became evident that the provisional costs for design and build of the custody suite were significantly understated. The Police Authority commissioned an internal audit into the management of the project as well as a detailed review to ensure that the Salfords development remained the most viable financial and operational solution. It concluded that, in spite of the increased costs, the Salfords proposal should progress.

On taking up office, the Commissioner asked his Deputy to review the latest position in respect of Salfords to ensure that lessons had been learnt, other options properly considered and that the project remained on track. The Commissioner also questioned why other options such as the 'hire' of cells in neighbouring forces were seemingly not given due consideration. He has acknowledged however, that at this stage in the project, Salfords remains the best option.

Latest Update

In early March 2013, the Commissioner received a progress briefing on the project from ACC Jerry Kirkby. ACC Kirkby provided details of the tendering process undertaken to secure a contractor, the work that had taken place to ensure the project would be delivered against the revised budget of £7,709,959 and the risks inherent in the project as it progresses. The Commissioner has agreed that the project should now move to construction stage and that necessary contractual processes should proceed. Work is due to commence on site in March 2013 with completion set for September 2013.

Recommendation

That subject to due diligence, the letter of intent to the selected contractors and associated contracts should be signed, allowing construction of the Salfords site to begin in late March 2013.

Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

I approve the recommendation(s):

Signature: 

Date: 8th March 2013

Areas of consideration

Consultation

The PCC has been briefed by ACC Jerry Kirkby. The PCC's Chief Finance Officer has reviewed the on-going risks and letter of intent to the selected constructor.

Financial implications

The PCC has been briefed on the budgetary position. The project remains in budget.

Risks

These have been raised with the PCC in a separate, commercially sensitive briefing.

Equality and diversity and Human Rights

No issues arising.