

Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey – Decision Making Record

Report Title: Cyber-Crime Prevention Team

Decision number: 084/2015

Author and Job Role: Damian Markland, Senior Policy Officer

Protective Marking: Part One

Executive Summary:

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has previously taken steps to establish a partnership which brings together the police, local councils, voluntary sector, academics and private industry to jointly work together to prevent cyber and cyber enabled crime in Surrey. However, current demand for preventative work is outstripping the capacity of the OPCC to resource the partnership's efforts, and it is therefore recommended that the PCC agree the creation of a small dedicated team to support this new and important area of work.

Background

To support the development of a dedicated team to oversee and coordinate local cyber-crime prevention activity, the OPCC has submitted a bid to the Police Innovation Fund for £376,000. If successful, the OPCC would look to match fund this sum from the OPCC budget, creating a total of £752,000 for two years of preventative work.

As previously agreed by the PCC (decision 082/2015), the majority of the OPCC's contribution would be taken from the Community Safety Fund and any DAAT fund surplus that existed at the end of the financial year. In the event that the Police Innovation Fund bid is rejected, the project will instead be solely reliant on this funding, with approximately £330,000 available to support two years of preventative work.

Should the Innovation Fund Bid not be successful, an alternative model of delivery has been developed that will allow the project to be scaled down. In this scenario staffing levels would remain the same, but there would be significantly less dedicated money for funding of local projects and events to support cyber-crime prevention activity. However, this alternative model retains a strong focus on developing partnership capacity, providing intelligence and coordinating work, with good potential for the dissemination of preventive messages and warnings, albeit with a smaller communications budget.

Recommendations

- The Commissioner support the establishment of a Cyber-Crime Prevention Team;
- The Commissioner support the creation of the following three, one-year fixed term posts (with the possibility of extension subject to funding), in order to prevent and reduce cyber and cyber-enabled crime in Surrey:
 - Policy Lead for Cyber-Crime Prevention

- Policy Support Officer
- Communications Officer

Police and Crime Commissioner Approval

I approve the recommendation(s):

Signature:



Date: 10/03/2015

All decisions must be added to the decision register.

Areas of consideration

Consultation

There has been consultation with members of Surrey's CyberSafe Partnership and the Force, with the proposal receiving support.

Financial implications

The project carries a number of costs, including the staffing costs for the three recommended posts, a communication budget and funding to support local projects and events. As detailed previously, the project will be scaled as necessary in order to fit within available budget.

Legal

The posts will be subject to normal HR procedures to comply with relevant employment legislation.

Risks

Cyber and Cyber-enabled crime is increasing. It is rapidly consuming more and more law enforcement time, energy and resource. The number of victims is also increasing as is the damage to individuals, organisations and the national economy. Local and national research shows that enforcement action alone is unsustainable and, unless comprehensive preventative action is taken, the impact of cyber and cyber-enabled crime will continue to worsen.

Equality and diversity

The posts will be subject to normal HR procedures to comply with relevant equality and diversity legislation.

Risks to human rights

No risks.