

Our Ref: 2388/16

1 April 2016

Dear

Re: Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request for information, which was received by the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner on 18 March 2016.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

1. What is the scope of this strategic alliance?
2. What effect will a strategic alliance with Leicestershire and Northamptonshire have on policing in the northern tip of Bassetlaw?
3. Would it be feasible to have another strategic alliance with South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire?
4. In fact, why isn't there a strategic alliance with every other police authority?

RESPONSE

Under S 1 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), I can confirm that the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner does hold the information you have requested.

Please find below answers to your questions:-

1. What is the scope of this strategic alliance?

You may be interested to look at a briefing for PCC election candidates in relation to East Midlands Police Collaboration, please follow the link below:

http://media.wix.com/ugd/a2a223_48a543cac9824ccfb814b3636464f5e9.pdf

The proposed Strategic Alliance builds upon current collaboration. The Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables for Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire have been in talks about forming a Strategic Alliance since last year. A full business case outlining some of the potential benefits of an alliance, including reduced duplication and bureaucracy, unified command structures and the advantages of operating in a borderless environment was considered on 24th March 2016. The next stage is to produce a detailed blueprint setting out what operational policing in the three counties will look like. If viable, a full Alliance could be in place by 2020.

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It is likely that the Strategic Alliance programme will include within its scope: control room(s), contact management and enabling services (that is, HR, Finance, IT, Corporate Development (Services), Estates, Transport and Procurement), together with more streamlined / regionally operating Chief Officer teams.

2. What effect will a strategic alliance with Leicestershire and Northamptonshire have on policing in the northern tip of Bassetlaw?

The PCC remains committed to protecting visible, accountable front line policing at a neighbourhood level. So, in terms of policing on the ground, you may notice little difference; however, the Strategic Alliance will provide more consistency, will facilitate a more 'joined up' way of working and will enable the sharing of best practice. It will take time to implement properly, but if you call the Police in the future, you may be put through to a shared control room or contact centre. Further down the line, as resources are pooled to most effective and efficient use, it should also save money - which can be reallocated to address the areas of greatest threat and risk.

3. Would it be feasible to have another strategic alliance with South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire?

We already collaborate with Lincolnshire in relation to EMOpsSS, EMSOU and Legal Services. We are moving forward with the Strategic Alliance together with Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, and our focus is currently on successful implementation. However, the door is open and we would be happy to discuss the option of other Forces joining the Strategic Alliance.

4. In fact, why isn't there a strategic alliance with every other police authority?

A good question! Although, it may be a question of scale, in order to maintain a local connection, regional collaboration seems to be the most effective way of working. Nottinghamshire Police and the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner continue to look for opportunities to work collaboratively across a wide range of functions as we try to maintain and improve our service at the same time as delivering significant cost savings.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer on telephone number 0115 8445998 or e-mail nopcc@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk.

Yours sincerely



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Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner