A Paper for Discussion at the meeting of Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables of the East Midlands

18 December 2013

A Vision for the East Midlands Police Region

Collaboration – Statement of Intent

The East Midlands Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables are committed to enhancing the efficiency and the cost effectiveness of each of their individual forces and to policing services across the five Forces and to meet the strategic policing requirement.

They are committed to maximise innovative ways of working collaboratively across a range of operational and business support functions to deliver reductions in crime and improvements in community safety. They recognise that collaboration is and will be seen in many different ways including agreements with national agencies, with other service providers, with forces outside the region, with criminal justice and community safety partners, with the third sector and with other local emergency services. In addition, they remain committed to appropriate collaboration with partner forces in the East Midlands. This may mean a mix of collaborative proposals which will include 2, 3, 4 or 5 force support.

The vision is to deliver a programme of change that will protect and improve local policing services by exploring every opportunity to collaborate to reduce cost and enhance the capability and capacity of policing and other services.

Guiding Principles

- To improve public safety
- To make better and more productive use of police resources
- To increase public confidence in policing
- To ensure that local policing will remain a local service addressing local needs and priorities
- To explore the potential for collaboration in specialist operational services, support services and ICT with the intent that this will be delivered collectively (collaboratively) to common standards and through common processes

Joint Working Will Be:

- Based upon the mutual commitment of Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners
- Governed by a clear, transparent and publicly accountable governance structure, scheme of delegation and financial regulations

- Timely and efficient to deliver change to meet the financial challenges facing each Police Force
- Respectful of the constitutional positions of PCCs to act in the interests of their constituents and Chief Constables to ensure effective operational policing is delivered to their communities
- Supported by a central team/s of specialists and staff who are accountable for delivery
- Managed by a joint management board and delivery boards involving PCCs and Chief Constables, relevant staff and other resources
- The benefits and costs of working collaboratively will be shared between the five forces or in the case of those collaborations not involving all forces, with those who have entered the collaboration

For the Public this will mean

- Being protected from serious harm by experienced and skilled professionals
- Criminals being targeted and held to account for their crimes
- Maximum resources invested in protecting and improving the safety of local communities

HMIC: 'Working Together (2013)

The HMIC report states: 'The five forces in the East Midlands region showed great vision, as well as strong and cohesive leadership, in establishing the collaboration programme, which was ahead of its time. The forces and their successive leaders have continued to support and develop it. As a result, the region was the first to increase capabilities in critical operational areas through joint working; its collaborated functions have produced an average saving of 20% from the precollaboration costs; and HMIC found the East Midlands forces continue to reap significant benefits in terms of resilience in some major operational areas'