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DYFED-POWYS
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER

REPORT / SUMMARY DECISION SHEET

PURPOSE: COMMISSIONER DECISION

Timing: Urgent / Pressing / Routine
(Specify date required and why, where possible)

Title: Mobile Police Stations Replacement

Category of Decision / Business Area Impact: Procurement – Capital Expenditure

Executive Summary:

- In 2007, Dyfed-Powys Police (DPP) purchased and equipped 8 Ford Vans for use as Mobile Police Stations (MPS) in order to support engagement with our communities, which now need to be replaced.
- A review conducted during the summer revealed that the actual usage of these vehicles as MPS does not warrant the number of vehicles currently deployed, and that the vehicles do not effectively enhance access to police services. The review highlighted some shortcomings:
 - There is no privacy afforded by the accommodation i.e. there is one large open area in the rear of the vehicle. It is difficult to conduct a private/discrete conversation inside the vehicle.
 - There is no 'waiting area' when the weather is inclement and members of the public are obliged to wait outside the vehicle.
 - They are not DDA compliant.
 - There is evidence to suggest that the use of the 'Battenberg' type marking actually acts as a barrier to the public insofar that people are reluctant to approach the vehicle as they are unsure whether the vehicle is engaged in an on-going police operation.
- The approximate cost of purchasing a new vehicle would be £45,000 + VAT plus the cost of additional equipment.
- A review of the current deployment model will be made to inform a more efficient and effective method of deploying these vehicles to ensure value for money and quality of service to our public.
- There may be mileage in collaborating with the other Welsh Police Forces to see if we can arrive at a model which meets our mutual needs and therefore seek economies of scale in meeting these requirements. If successful, this could also be marketed as an 'All-Wales' initiative and provide a consistent level of service to our public – wherever they reside in Wales.

Recommendation:

- The Commissioner approves the commitment of £300,000 towards the purchase of four new mobile police stations.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the NOLAN Principles for Conduct in Public Life.

The above has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

24/1/2014