



ORIGINATOR: CHIEF CONSTABLE

PAPER NO. AP13/12

**SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL –
30 APRIL 2013**

SUBJECT: SUFFOLK ESTATES STRATEGY – LATEST UPDATE

SUMMARY:

1. This report provides an update on progress in respect of the Estates Strategy approved by Suffolk Police Authority in July 2011.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Accountability and Performance Panel is asked to note the content of this report.

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 1.1. The Estates Strategy agreed by the Police Authority in July 2011 (Paper PA11/56) included an Estates Plan with a prioritised list of initiatives to be delivered over the four-year period to March 2015.

Ipswich Police Station

- 1.2. Disposal of the station will be progressed once an alternative base has been secured for the town centre Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and other units for whom a base in the town centre is appropriate.

Central Ipswich Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Base

- 1.3. As detailed above in 1.2, a base for the Central Ipswich Safer Neighbourhood Team is being pursued. Progress is being made with the intended acquisition of a site for this purpose, which is subject to Planning Permission being achieved.

Brandon

- 1.4. Plans are progressing to relocate the police SNT from a leased building in the High Street to a shared public sector project in a former school in Brandon town centre. This is on target to be achieved by July 2013.

Newmarket

- 1.5. The existing police station is currently for sale whilst plans are implemented to relocate the Safer Neighbourhood Team into smaller more suitable accommodation in the town centre. A partnership has been identified with Suffolk County Council for shared accommodation for the SNT which is being progressed.

Woodbridge Police Station

- 1.6. The Constabulary are currently reviewing planning permission options, prior to a remarketing of Woodbridge police station. Plans to relocate the SNT to alternative premises in Woodbridge are being progressed, and a site has been identified.

14 The Square, Martlesham

- 1.7. This leased office accommodation will be vacated by the end of June 2013 and the lease terminated. Staff will move back to the Police HQ into space released by the move of other staff to Landmark House.

Office premises in Beech Terrace, Stowmarket

- 1.8. The Constabulary are currently reviewing planning permission options, prior to a remarketing of the office premises in Beech Terrace, following relocation of the occupants to Police HQ and Chapel St Mary Police Station.

Southwold

- 1.9. An alternative base for local officers in Southwold is being sought in order to facilitate disposal of the police station site at the same time as the County Council/Fire Service dispose of the adjacent Fire station site, later this year. The Fire Service will relocate to a nearby site in Reydon.

- 1.10. Work is continuing to investigate options for several other locations around Suffolk including engagement with public sector partners to identify any opportunities for shared solutions.

General

- 1.11. Work has commenced with Norfolk Constabulary on the development of a joint Norfolk and Suffolk Estates Strategy with careful consideration being given to the implications of collaborative working and any cross border policing issues.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 2.1. The outline financial implications are contained within the medium term financial plan. The Plan is designed to generate capital receipts from sales of assets, reduce revenue costs through a general policy of downsizing whilst replacing older building stock with accommodation, which is more fit for purpose.

3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

- 3.1. Ref PCC Risk Register - The delivery of further financial savings is dependent on the achievement of further estate rationalisation. Any slippage in the estates programme will have consequential effects on the achievement of savings. No specific concerns are raised by this report.

| ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED) | PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO' |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Has legal advice been sought on this submission? | No |
| Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted? | Yes |
| Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate? | Yes |
| Have human resource implications been considered? | Yes |
| Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan? | Yes |
| Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation? | Yes |
| Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed? | Yes |
| In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission? | Yes |