

Police and Crime Panel

1st February 2019

Brexit preparations



Report of Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner

Purpose

To provide an up to date summary of preparations for Brexit relating to the impact of Brexit on Durham Constabulary

Background

Members will be aware of the current political situation regarding the decision for the UK to leave the EU on the 29th March 2019. At the time of writing there is no definitive political decision detailing what Brexit will mean in practice. The greatest risks would however be associated with a “no deal” scenario and an assumption of no extension of article 50. This report will advise on high level preparations, where Durham may be impacted in responding to national issues and what stance and impact there will be locally.

National Preparations

- Currently UK forces have full data sharing in relation to EU nationals
- A “no deal” will require a new treaty to provide full data sharing. (Norway has been pursuing this for 10 years and has yet to agree a treaty)
- Whilst Forces will still be able to obtain data it will revert to pre 1982 processes with long delays
- Potential for increases in Hate Crime, civil unrest, a rise in congestion on the roads and an increase in arrests.
- Preparations in place for mutual aid requirements.

Durham Constabulary preparations

- Scanning work has been undertaken of the impact of transferring EU markers onto the Interpol systems with an increase but catered for increase in administrative burden
- There will be a new communications intelligence team to provide support to enable the new processes to be managed
- Ongoing assessments in relation to increased tensions continue to be made and appropriate preventative action is being taken.
- Regional mobilisation plans have been tested and if put into operation, Durham is able to provide the required resource. This will however impact on local capability for the duration of the deployment.
- There are currently no restrictions on officer or staff leave
- Critical supply chains have been examined with no concerns identified at this stage.

Recommendations

Panel members are recommended to note the information contained in this report.

Stephen White
Chief Executive

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance: not at present but to be kept under review

Staffing: not at present but to be kept under review

Equality and Diversity: possible risk of hate crime

Accommodation: N/A

Crime and Disorder: not at present but to be kept under review

Children's Act 2004 N/A

Stakeholder/Community Engagement: N/A

Environment N/A

Collaboration and Partnerships N/A

Value for Money and Productivity N/A

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities: not at present but to be kept under review

Commissioning : N/A

Other risks: N/A

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