

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>SPA Policing Performance</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>8 June 2021</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Video Conference</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>Update on Enhancement of Taser Capability</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>ACC Williams, Operational Support</b>
<b>Recommendation to Members</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Appendix Attached</b>	<b>Appendix A Taser Finances</b>

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this paper is to update members on the planning and implementation of the new TASER operating model.

Members are invited to discuss the contents of the report.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 In January 2021 Senior Leadership Board approved a new operating model for Specially Trained Officers (STO's) across Scotland. The new model was proposed in response to the Strategic Risk Assessment (STRA) which identified that in recent years there has been a gradual but sustained increase in the number of assaults on officers and staff in Scotland. The total number of assaults for 2019/20 was 15% higher than the average for the previous five financial years. Physical injuries occur in approximately 30% of police assaults.

Since 2015 the number of incidents attended by the police that have been coded as weapon involved, has risen from 1,751 to 3,096, an increase of 1345.

- 1.2 Against this backdrop it was recommended that the number of STO's be increased from the current cadre of around 500 to around 2000 over the next 3 years.

## **2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC**

- 2.1 Internal Governance and Assurance of Taser is led by ACC Williams who chairs the Taser Monitoring Group, this reports through the Crime and Operations Management Board into Senior Leadership Board. The Monitoring Group oversees the planning framework and directs and supports the implementation team.

- 2.2 In advance of implementing any changes to the existing model the monitoring group approved a communication and engagement plan to ensure that key national stakeholders and other interested parties have the opportunity to inform how the operating model is developed and changed. The plan will be delivered between April and August this year before further implementation decisions are taken.

- 2.3 Stage 1 of the plan which involved letters being sent to the following national partners outlining the recommendations and offering a "meet and brief" has now been completed and a number of briefing sessions have been diarised for early June.

- Scottish Government
- Police Investigations and Review Commissioner

- HMICS
  - SOLACE
  - COSLA
- 2.4 Stage 2 commencing in late May enables Divisional Commanders to engage with their local scrutiny committees and provide further information and detail as required around the impact of this change. In particular details of the number of officer who are likely to be trained and the locations in which they will deploy from.
- 2.5 Stage 3 is running concurrently with stage 2 and involves letters being sent to around 30 interest groups inviting them to take part in an engagement session which will outline the rationale for change and describe in detail what is being proposed. The groups cover race, disability and human rights including Deaf Scotland, Epilepsy Scotland, Scottish Autism and Scottish Human Rights Commission.
- 2.6 This will enable us to gather feedback to inform our EQHRIA and also future training and implementation plans.
- 2.7 The current planning assumption, subject to general support for the proposals, is that the communication and engagement activity will close in early August allowing a report and recommendation to be made at the Taser Monitoring Group in late August. Approval will then be sought from the Chief Constable prior to any further implementation activities.
- 2.8 Draft plans are in place which, subject to approvals, would enable us to commence recruitment and training of additional STO's from September this year.
- 2.9 Phase 1 of the implementation plan is the recruitment and training of a further 350 STO's between September and March 2022. Every local policing division across Scotland will benefit from this increase. In 22/23 the current planning assumption is a further increase of 650 STO's taking the overall number up to 1520. The remainder will follow in 23/24.
- 2.10 Planning is underway to introduce a further 13 locations where trained officers can access the devices by March 2022. Locations include Elgin, Alloa, Helensburgh, Mallaig, Cumnock and Arran.

- 2.11 The STO's will continue to use the current device (AXON T2) and there are no plans to move to the new model (AXON T7), however Taser is also carried by armed policing officers and they are scheduled to replace their existing devices with T7 over the next 2 years.

### **Evaluation and assessment process for Taser 7**

- 2.12 The UK Home Office holds ultimate responsibility for identifying, testing and authorising less lethal weapons and uses technical sub-committees to advise on the safety, potential use of, and health implications of weaponry. It also works with the NPCC to develop policies on authorisation, training and monitoring requirements that underpin any agreed deployment.
- 2.12 The UK Home Office and NPCC had a requirement for a Conducted Energy Device suitable for covert carriage to replace the Taser X26 and the Taser 7 was identified by the NPCC as a suitable candidate.
- 2.13 The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) were tasked by the Home Office Commissioning Hub to conduct an assessment of the Taser 7 to evaluate its compliance with the Police Operational Requirements, which were subsequently extended to include both covert and overt Police roles.
- 2.14 The results of the technical report compiled by DSTL described the physical assessment of the Taser 7 for technical and user handling performance. This included range, angles of fire and spread of cartridges. It also informed the independent Scientific Advisory Committee on the Medical Implications of Less-Lethal weapons (SACMILL) to aid their understanding of the Taser 7 system as well as informing the Home Office, Police and College of Policing of the system's performance.
- 2.15 The T7 remains the most appropriate device for Armed Policing officers going forward.

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The projected costs of the implementation are captured in Appendix 1.

#### **4. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Scottish Police Federation are members of the Taser Monitoring Group and have offered support for the future operating model.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal implications.

#### **6. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Taser has been successfully deployed across Scotland by STO's since 2018 without reputational implications for Police Scotland.

#### **7. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no social implications.

#### **8. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

8.1 The community implications are being addressed through the delivery of the communication and engagement plan, the output from the delivery of the plan, expected in late August, will inform further decisions around future implementation of the model.

#### **9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EQHRIA) is in place and will be updated once the current communication and engagement activities are complete.

#### **10. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no environmental implications.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to discuss the contents of this report.



**Taser Uplift**  
**01/04/2021**

**Summary**

Revenue
Hubs
BAU
Uplift

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
£	£	£
<b>£636,230</b>	<b>£790,505</b>	<b>£945,345</b>
£60,670	£58,379	£61,211
£346,754	£493,783	£636,097
£228,806	£238,344	£248,037

Capital
Hubs
BAU
Uplift

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
£	£	£
<b>£224,210</b>	<b>£234,650</b>	<b>£262,217</b>
£111,293	£97,982	£99,557
£95,625	£118,857	£144,315
£17,292	£17,811	£18,345

<b>Total cost</b>	<b>£860,440</b>	<b>£1,025,156</b>	<b>£1,207,561</b>	<b>£3,093,157</b>
Taser trained Officers	984	1,350	1,684	
Taser Hubs	84	97	110	

**Timeline**

New Hubs
Total Accumulative Hubs

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
69	15	13	13
69	84	97	110

New Officers Trained
Attrition rate (~9%)
Total Accumulative Officers Trained

-9%

641	500	500	500
-60	-97	-134	-167
581	984	1,350	1,684

**Detail**

**Hubs**

Revenue	Volume / Hub	Unit Cost	£	£	£	£	£	Budget Line	Comments
			2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total	Re-occurring cost		
Software Licence	1	£1,000	£15,000	£13,000	£13,000	£41,000	£13,000	It - Licenses & Subscriptions	
Annual Support & Maintenance	1	£200	£16,800	£19,400	£22,000	£58,200	£22,000	It - Maintenance	
Taser Boards	1	£140	£2,100	£1,820	£1,820	£5,740	£0	Specialist Ops Equipment	
Safariland Holster (Right Handed)	4	£98	£5,880	£5,096	£5,096	£16,072	£0	Specialist Ops Equipment	
Safariland Holster (left Handed)	2	£98	£2,940	£2,548	£2,548	£8,036	£0	Specialist Ops Equipment	

Live Cartridges	20	£29
Smart Cartridges Holder	4	£21
Taser safety glasses	2	£6
USB Data port sync adaptor	1	£157
Contingency (10%)		

<b>Capital</b>		
Asset Cabinet Hardware - 1 per Hub	1	£2,500
Issue & Return Station - 1 per Hub	1	£1,000
Taser X2 Device - 4 per Hub	4	£865
Taser APPM Battery Pack - 8 per Hub	8	£58

**BAU**

<b>Revenue</b>		
Cartridges - Refresher	10*Officers	£29
Upper Body Carriage System		£125
Accommodation		£32,900
Cartridges - Operational	20*Hub	£29
Feeding		£7
Venue Hire		£5,000
Travel		£20
Instructor Uniforms	12	£500
Hire of Vehicles		
Targets	10	£79
Consumables		£1,500
Vehicle Fuel		

£8,646	£7,718	£7,950	<b>£24,314</b>	£0
£1,258	£1,090	£1,090	<b>£3,437</b>	£0
£189	£164	£164	<b>£516</b>	£164
£2,358	£2,044	£2,044	<b>£6,445</b>	£157
£5,500	£5,500	£5,500	<b>£16,500</b>	£5,500
<b>£60,670</b>	<b>£58,379</b>	<b>£61,211</b>	<b>£180,260</b>	<b>£40,821</b>

£37,500	£32,500	£32,500	<b>£102,500</b>	£0
£15,000	£13,000	£13,000	<b>£41,000</b>	£0
£51,876	£46,308	£47,697	<b>£145,881</b>	£0
£6,917	£6,174	£6,360	<b>£19,451</b>	£0
<b>£111,293</b>	<b>£97,982</b>	<b>£99,557</b>	<b>£308,832</b>	<b>£0</b>

Specialist Ops Equipment	Assume 3% price increase year on year.
Specialist Ops Equipment	
Specialist Ops Equipment	
Specialist Ops Equipment	
Specialist Ops Equipment	

Capital - Weaponry	
Capital - Weaponry	
Capital - Weaponry	Assume 3% price increase year on year.
Capital - Weaponry	Assume 3% price increase year on year.

£167,444.20	£292,010	£412,818	<b>£872,273</b>	£485,231
£62,500	£62,500	£62,500	<b>£187,500</b>	£0
£32,900	£32,900	£32,900	<b>£98,700</b>	£32,900.00
£48,418	£55,911	£63,404	<b>£167,732</b>	£63,404
£6,886	£9,451	£11,786	<b>£28,123</b>	£11,786
£5,000	£7,500	£10,000	<b>£22,500</b>	£10,000
£11,620	£19,674	£27,004	<b>£58,298</b>	£33,673
£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	<b>£18,000</b>	£6,000
£2,700	£4,050	£5,400	<b>£12,150</b>	£5,400
£786	£786	£786	<b>£2,358</b>	£786
£1,500	£1,500	£1,500	<b>£4,500</b>	£1,500
£1,000	£1,500	£2,000	<b>£4,500</b>	£2,000

Firearms Related Costs	Assume 3% price increase year on year.
Clothing & Uniform	
Other supplies & Services	Costs only associated with North. Historically costs £140/night/instructor, 14 courses with 5 overnights/course. Therefore £39,200.
Firearms Related Costs	
Catering & Hospitality	Historically, it cost PS £7 per person, based on 12 student, 4 instructors (16), therefore £112 per course.
Other 3rd party payments	Based on the historic cost of venue hire in North Command at ~£5k, increasing year on year as more courses will be run.
Public Transport	Based on historic cost, ~£10k a year for 500, therefore ~£20 per officer.
Clothing & Uniform	
Hire of Vehicles	Based on historic cost.
Training Equipment	
Training Equipment	Based on historic cost.
Vehicle Fuel	Based on historic cost.



£346,754    £493,783    £636,097    £1,476,634    £652,680

Capital		
Tasers - Replacement	6	£865
Battery - Operational	1344/1552/1760	£58
Battery - Refresher	225/360/510	£58

£5,188	£5,343	£5,504	<b>£16,034</b>	£5,504
£77,468	£92,141	£107,624	<b>£277,234</b>	£107,624
£12,969	£21,373	£31,187	<b>£65,529</b>	£31,187
<b>£95,625</b>	<b>£118,857</b>	<b>£144,315</b>	<b>£358,797</b>	<b>£144,315</b>

Capital - Weaponry	6 per year. Assume 3% price increase year on year.
Capital - Weaponry	Based on historic usage. Assume 3% price increase year on year.
Capital - Weaponry	Based on historic usage. Assume 3% price increase year on year.

**Uplift**

Revenue		
Cartridges	12*Officers	£29
Accommodation		£32,900
Feeding		£7
Venue Hire		£5,000
Travel		£20
Hire of Vehicles		
Targets	10	£79
Vehicle Fuel		

£172,920	£178,108	£183,451	<b>£534,478</b>	£0
£32,900	£32,900	£32,900	<b>£98,700</b>	£0
£3,500	£3,500	£3,500	<b>£10,500</b>	£0
£5,000	£7,500	£10,000	<b>£22,500</b>	£0
£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	<b>£30,000</b>	£0
£2,700	£4,050	£5,400	<b>£12,150</b>	£0
£786	£786	£786	<b>£2,358</b>	£0
£1,000	£1,500	£2,000	<b>£4,500</b>	£0
<b>£228,806</b>	<b>£238,344</b>	<b>£248,037</b>	<b>£715,186</b>	<b>£0</b>

Firearms Related Costs	Based on trainer new officers, with each officer requiring 12 per course. Assume 3% price increase year on year.
Other supplies & Services	Costs only associated with North. Historically costs £140/night/instructor, 14 courses with 5 overnights/course. Therefore £39,200.
Catering & Hospitality	Historically, it cost PS £7 per person, based on 12 student, 4 instructors (16), therefore £112 per course.
Other 3rd party payments	Based on the historic cost of venue hire in North Command at ~£5k, increasing year on year as more courses will be run.
Public Transport	Based on historic cost, ~£10k a year for 500, therefore ~£20 per officer.
Hire of Vehicles	Based on historic cost.
Training Equipment	
Vehicle Fuel	Based on historic cost.

Capital		
Battery - training	300	£58

£17,292	£17,811	£18,345	<b>£53,448</b>	£0
<b>£17,292</b>	<b>£17,811</b>	<b>£18,345</b>	<b>£53,448</b>	<b>£0</b>

Capital - Weaponry	Assume 3% price increase year on year.
--------------------	----------------------------------------