



To Safety Committee July 10, 2007

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: May 29, 2007

From: Phyllis L. Carlyle
General Manager, Law & Community Safety

File: 09-5350-01

Re: Lower Mainland District Integration Initiatives - Forensic Identification Services, Police Dog Services, Collision Reconstruction and Analysis Services

Staff Recommendation

That the funding changes to accommodate the three integration initiatives - Forensic Identification Services, Police Dog Services, and Collision Reconstruction and Analysis Services be considered in the 2008 Budget, and

That a letter be forwarded to the Solicitor General advising that a sustainable and equitable funding framework for integrated teams and taskforces be the subject of negotiations during the 2012 RCMP contract renewal.

Phyllis L. Carlyle
General Manager, Law & Community Safety
(4104)

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ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
R.C.M.P.....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the November, 2006 meeting of the Community Safety Committee an information report was presented on the rationale and proposed timing for three integration initiatives - Forensic Identification Services, Police Dog Services, and Collision Reconstruction and Analysis Services currently underway by the LMD (Lower Mainland District).

The RCMP elected to undertake these three initiatives using a phased approach. The objective of phasing the integration was to realign resources and reporting providing a more flexible service delivery model, and to review the new service delivery model before transferring budget authority from detachments to the LMD. The first phase of the integration is complete and the LMD is now ready to implement the second phase which is to apply the funding formula used for integrated teams.

Analysis

The use of integrated teams in the LMD has been implemented for IHIT (Integrated Homicide Investigation Team) and ERT (Emergency Response Team). The LMD has advised that the three current initiatives represent the last major integration of services in the LMD. There are no new resources required for these initiatives until April, 2009.

The realignment of reporting and resources undertaken in the first phase of integration is complete. In reviewing the business cases for these three initiatives and consulting with the local detachment there appears to be a sound business case for integrating these three functions that should not result in any reduction in service levels. There were some initial concerns with the business case for the Police Dog Services that would have resulted in a significant lag time, or an inability to access a Dog Squad when required. However, the local detachment and LMD recognized the unique circumstances and geographic location of the city, and worked together to arrive at a solution which maintains the same number of dogs in Richmond .

The following financial and performance measures have been identified by the LMD in consultation with municipalities.

- That financial performance be reviewed one year after the Phase II implementation to establish that the objectives have been met.
- That baseline service levels are identified for each integrated team.
- That each integrated team is reviewed to ensure the resourcing levels are appropriate to meet the City's policing needs.
- That the performance of each service line be reviewed with the Detachment OIC.

These financial and performance measures will be important in order to understand the impact that the integration of these initiatives has on the detachment's ability to maintain service levels, and whether the costs for these services are appropriate.

The purpose of all the LMD integration initiatives is to provide seamless service delivery for specific policing functions. To that end, the LMD has been proactive in ensuring that independent police forces understand the benefits of these initiatives and are invited to participate. For example, the Abbotsford Police Department is part of, and contributes funding to, the LMD Police Dog Service.

While the benefit of this seamless service delivery is recognized, the funding of these integrated units remains a challenge. The funding for integrated teams is a non-discretionary item, while local policing requirements are at Council's discretion. This has the effect of putting the funding for local policing requirements at a disadvantage, and putting funding for integrated teams outside the control of Council.

The structure of the LMD and the associated integrated teams was not envisioned when contract negotiations were underway for the 1992 RCMP contract. In the negotiations for the 2012 contract it would be advisable that Provincial Policing Services include the establishment of a sustainable and equitable funding framework to address local, LMD and provincial police requirements.

Financial Impact

The financial management of the budgets for these three initiatives will be transferred from the Detachment Commanders to the LMD April 1, 2008. The table in Attachment 1, captures the pre-integration costs for these services in 2007, and post-integration, the City's contribution to the LMD for the three integrated services for 2008 - 2012. The City's contribution is calculated using the same formula used for IHIT and ERT – 25% population and 75% criminal code cases on a five year rolling average.

Overall, the costs of integrating these three areas results in an increase of \$79,391 to the City for 2008. These would be added to the base level 2008 RCMP operating budget rather than as additional levels, as they are considered non-discretionary costs.

Costs from 2008 – 2012 are estimated to increase anywhere from 4.6% - 8.6% annually, as additional members are brought in. These increases are to accommodate a ratio established by the RCMP for the number of members in each integrated unit to the total number of municipal detachment members in the LMD.

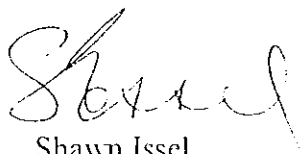
The RCMP have advised that the funding for these integration initiatives is their highest priority for the 2008 budget.

Conclusion

The Lower Mainland District has integrated Police Dog Services, Collision Reconstruction and Analysis Services and Forensic Identification Services. The financial integration of these initiatives is scheduled to occur in April, 2008. Staff will monitor costs and service levels to ensure Richmond's needs continue to be met. The funding of integrated initiatives was not envisioned during the last police contract negotiations. Provincial Police Services should be advised of the disparity this has created in the funding of police requirements and the need for a funding framework to address this issue.

May 29, 2007

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Issel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Shawn Issel

Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs

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