



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** October 31, 2006
From: Phyllis L. Carlyle **File:** 09-5350-08-01/Vol 01+
General Manager, Law & Community Safety
Re: Review of Alternative Models of Delivery of Policing Services Update

Staff Recommendation

That the update regarding the Review of Alternative Models of Delivery of Policing Services be received for information, and

That a Council representative be designated to the Police Review Steering Committee.

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

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO (ACTING)	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the June 26, 2006 Council meeting, the Terms of Reference for the Review of Alternative Methods for the Delivery of Police Service were approved. The Review is to be completed in three phases:

- **Phase 1** – assembling the necessary resources and gaining a basic understanding of policing in the region.
- **Phase 2** – conducting in-depth research by identifying the major components of the current detachment and defining the major components of a City of Richmond Municipal Police Department using comparable municipal police forces. These components will be evaluated against the ability to meet community needs, governance, overall cost effectiveness and service delivery effectiveness.
- **Phase 3** - Upon conclusion of Phase 2 the Consultants will have developed a draft report which will be reviewed by the staff team and the Steering Committee, and then presented to Council in a workshop format. The purpose of the workshop will be to educate Council about the various options available for the delivery of policing services, and to receive Council input to be utilized for the completion of the final report. The final report will be presented to the Community Safety Committee upon completion.

As part of the review, staff were requested to provide progress reports as the review proceeded. This report is the first update on the Review and represents work that has been completed in Phase 1.

Analysis

Phase 1

The first phase of the Review of Police Service Delivery is nearing completion. This phase includes retaining consultants, meeting with municipal police departments and other detachments in the region, assembling an internal staff team, and identifying potential members for the Review Steering Committee.

Provincial Police Services

Under the Police Act, Part 2, Section 3 and 4 (Attachment 1), the Solicitor General has the authority for policing in the Province, and the ability to provide or reorganize policing in a municipality. Therefore, in addition to the above work, staff thought it prudent to determine the Province's policy with respect to changing the policing model in a municipality (while still in the early stage of the Review). In August, the General Manager of Law and Community Safety; and the Manager of Community Safety Policy and Programs met with Kevin Begg, the Director of Police Services from the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Public Safety. The primary purpose of this meeting was to determine how receptive the Province would be to changing the policing model in Richmond.

At this meeting the Director advised that the Ministry considers the delivery of police services to be already fragmented due to the high number of police departments and detachments across the province. In order to prevent any further fragmentation of police service delivery, the Ministry's

longstanding policy has been to maintain the current structure of police departments and detachments in the province, or if warranted, amalgamate existing forces. The Director cited the Abbotsford/Matsqui and Victoria/Esquimalt police forces as amalgamations approved by the Province in recent years, each for differing reasons.

In order to have assurances that the Police Review would not be compromised, members of Council and staff met with the Solicitor General during the UBCM Conference to discuss the Police Review. At the meeting the Solicitor General confirmed that the Province was responsible for determining policing delivery in the Province, however he stated that the Province would not predetermine or influence the outcome of the review.

Contract Renewal

At the August meeting, the Director of Police Services also provided information on the negotiations for the renewal of the policing agreement in 2012. The Province has not started formal negotiations with the Federal Government, although there have been preliminary meetings. In anticipation of these negotiations the Director is working with the UBCM to develop a consultative process with municipalities across the Province. This process would include sessions to provide information on the negotiation process and to gather input from municipalities on the issues and concerns they would like addressed. Staff have also received correspondence from Stockwell Day, the Federal Minister of Public Safety, advising that preliminary discussions have taken place at the Contract Advisory Committee meetings regarding the process for renewing the contract, but that no discussions have taken place regarding the extent of municipal involvement.

Steering Committee

A Police Review Steering Committee is to be appointed to provide a high level response to the consultants' findings at appropriate milestones in the review process, to assist the consultants by suggesting interviewees, focus group membership, and such other contributions as may be helpful, to review the preliminary/draft report, and to provide feedback and advice with respect to the recommendations. The Steering Committee membership will be comprised of a Council representative, senior level representatives from the LMD, Richmond Detachment and municipal police forces, as well as the General Manager, Law and Community Safety. Through the meetings with other policing agencies around the region, staff have identified several candidates to sit on this committee. A subsequent report will be brought forward to Council recommending members for the Steering Committee.

Internal Staff Team

An internal staff team has been appointed whose role will be to provide advice and input, and be available as resources to the consultants.

Consultants

The consultants will be responsible for carrying out the Review under the direction of the Project Manager. The consultants will identify the major components of the current detachment, and define the major components of a City of Richmond Municipal Police Department using comparable municipal police forces. Evaluation of these components will then take place against the following criteria - ability to meet community needs, governance, overall cost effectiveness, and service delivery effectiveness. The internal staff team is reviewing the proposals and will

make a recommendation to the General Manager, Law and Community Safety regarding the award of the contract. One of the initial tasks for the consultants will be to hold a workshop with Council to provide Council with an understanding of policing models, and to identify priorities and areas of concern.

Meeting with Municipal Police Departments and Other Detachments in the Region

Over the past several months the General Manager, Law and Community Safety and the Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs have been meeting with various police agencies around the region. The purpose of these meetings is to explain the process and purpose of the police review, to gain a better understanding of policing around the region, to develop relationships with other police agencies, and to identify potential members for the Police Steering Committee.

To date, meetings have been held with the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable, New Westminster Police Department, and the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable, Delta Police Department. Discussion at these meetings has been about the similarities and differences between a municipal police department and an RCMP municipal detachment in the areas of governance, their relationships with other police agencies both municipal, regional and provincial, their interaction with municipal staff, how they resource their departments, and levels of service. Staff have also met with two Deputy Chiefs from Vancouver Police Department regarding the White Paper they are preparing on the subject of regional policing.

In order to ensure a balanced and objective understanding of policing, staff met with the OIC at the Surrey Detachment. Meetings have also been scheduled with the OIC's of Langley and Coquitlam Detachments to gather information on how other detachments function.

Next Steps

Once the contract for consulting is awarded, Phase 2 of the Police Review will begin. The first step will be to arrange a workshop with Council to clarify Council's priorities and areas of concern. This workshop is an integral part of the process, by providing Council's direction to the Consultants for the bulk of the Review.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact at this time.

Conclusion

The first phase of the Police Review is now substantially complete. Staff will continue to provide progress updates to Council at regular intervals.



Shawn Issel
Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs (4184)
SI:si

Police Act

Responsibilities of Provincial and municipal governments
for providing policing and law enforcement services

3 (1) The government must provide policing and law enforcement services for the following:....

..... (c) municipalities with a population of more than 5000 persons that contract with the minister to engage the provincial police force to act as the municipal police department in their municipalities.

(2) A municipality with a population of more than 5000 persons must provide policing and law enforcement in accordance with this Act and the regulations by means of one of the following:

(a) establishing a municipal police department;

(b) entering into an agreement with the minister under which policing and law enforcement in the municipality will be provided by the provincial police force;

(c) with the approval of the minister, entering into an agreement with another municipality that has a municipal police department under which policing and law enforcement in the municipality will be provided by the municipal police department of that municipality.

(3) An agreement under subsection (2) (b) or (c) must contain terms that the Lieutenant Governor in Council approves.

Minister may provide policing and law enforcement

4 (1) Despite section 3, if the minister considers that it is necessary or desirable, the minister may, on terms approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, provide or reorganize the policing and law enforcement

(a) in a municipality to which section 3 (2) applies, or

(b) in an area or region of British Columbia.

(2) Costs incurred by the government under subsection (1) (a) are a debt due to and recoverable by the government from the municipality.