

National Law Enforcement Data Programme:

Update: October 2018

For Information Document

1 October 2018

This Document has been written with the aim of providing an update on the current status of the National Law Enforcement Data Programme. It is to be circulated to Law Enforcement Governance bodies and Civil Society Organisations for information.

NLEDP – Non-Paper

1. The National Law Enforcement Data Programme (NLEDP) will replace the existing Police National Computer (PNC) and Police National Database with a single system in the Law Enforcement Data Service (LEDS). PNC was created in 1974 and has broadly remained unchanged, dealing primarily with records of fact. PND was built in response to the Bichard Inquiry into the Soham Murders and is primarily intelligence focused. LEDS will serve up a single view of an individual which could encompass both evidential and intelligence material.
2. The Programme has recently undergone several delivery reviews, including an external review by the Infrastructure and Projects Authority (IPA) which reports into Cabinet Office. Reviews such as these are standard procedure – gateway reviews are part of a project lifecycle and the IPA regularly reviews complex projects like NLEDP across Government.
3. These reviews have resulted in a number of recommendations to NLEDP around the Programme’s governance, structure, the strategic build and release plans and also the Programme’s business case. The implementation of these recommendations is being overseen by the NLEDP Board.
4. As the reviews of the Programme remain ongoing – the IPA is due to review the implementation of its recommendations in a follow up review currently expected in December 2018 – the strategic build and release plans, and related timelines, remain subject to change as these remedial activities take place. To this end, we are not in a position to provide the Open Space or its members with a concrete forward timeline for the Programme’s delivery, or by extension, the Open Space areas of focus. Once clarity is provided this will be conveyed to the Open Space and its members.
5. Despite this, and although the review period is not finalised, some outcomes from these reviews have developed and are of clear relevance to the Open Space.

Strategic plan, build and release plan

6. It is becoming increasingly clear that the Programme will shift from delivering a ‘big bang’ release of the new LEDS system to incremental delivery of individual capabilities that will eventually collectively comprise LEDS.
7. Incremental capability delivery will provide the Open Space, and its members, greater flexibility, scope and time to input into the design of these capabilities. Capability-focused delivery additionally provides the Open Space the opportunity to assess LEDS, and its policies and design, from an outcome-oriented perspective rather than Programme/build perspective.

This discussion document has been written to advance the formulation of Policy. It is not intended to be a statement of Home Office policy or intention.

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Governance and programme organisation structure

8. The Programme is reconsidering its operating model, including governance and organisation structure. Strengthening these aspects of the Programme will improve the future planning around the Programme, and by extension, planning around the Open Space.

Re-working the Programme business case

9. As funding across the portfolio within which the NLEDP sits is currently constrained, the shift to deliver incrementally requires a new business case. This business case will focus on the revised delivery approach focusing on incremental capabilities which will eventually be sufficient to replace PNC and PND.
10. With incremental delivery there is a risk that the PNC and PND will be kept in service longer than originally anticipated. This means the LEDS Policy Team will need, and by extension the Open Space will be afforded the opportunity, to consider in greater detail and focus the policy and compliance of the PNC and PND alongside LEDS.
11. Despite these challenges, the Programme remains committed to delivering a Law Enforcement Data Service that provides law enforcement on demand, and at the point of need, with current and joined up information in order to prevent crime and better safeguard the public.
12. We will continue to work within the Programme to deliver a clear plan and business case to this end by the end of the calendar year.

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