

Decision Record



Date of Decision: 13/05/2025

Lead Officer: Shivam Vadher

Decision Record URN: EXE0008-25

Title: **CONT0422 - Regional Specialist Crime Skills Programme**

Decision summary:

Leicestershire Police requires the provision of Regional Specialist Crime Skills Programme. It was agreed to publish an open tender. The opportunity has been awarded to two providers: CARMAR Consultants and Opto Training Ltd. The award has been approved by Assistant Chief Officer – Finance and we are asking the Police Commissioner to sign the contract & to add his seal.

Decision Sought:

To be completed by Lead Officer

Procurement are requesting that the Police Commissioner signs and adds his seal to the respective Regional Specialist Crime Skills Programme Contract Schedules. The initial contract period shall be for 24-month from 01/05/2025 – 30/04/2027 with two 12-month options to extend until 30/04/2029. The estimated overall contract value for all 3 lots (including extension options) is at £490,800 excluding VAT.

Supporting information

1) Background information

The Regional Specialist Crime Skills Programme is split into 3 Lots:

- Lot 1 - SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood)
- Lot 2 – SII Specialist Investigative Interviewer (victims, witnesses & suspects)
- Lot 3 - SCAIDP (Specialist Child Abuse Investigators' Development Portfolio)

Following the conclusion of a competitive open tender, the Most Economically Advantageous Tenders were provided by CARMAR Consultants and Opto Training Ltd. All bids were evaluated based on gateway questions (pass/fail), 70% Quality and 30% Price.

The requirement is for experienced trainers to provide and support existing Police Trainers. The Associate Trainers will be required for work packages throughout the East Midlands Region, on police premises or other premises sourced by the partnership in accordance with an agreed training schedule.

Associate Trainers shall have a recognised a training qualification (minimum NVQ Level 3 in Learning & Development or equivalent), relevant investigative experience and have a working knowledge of the programmes. They will also demonstrate an understanding of the assessment process that underpins PIP accreditation.

The content delivered shall be in line with College of Policing which shall ensure the content meets a high standard and consistent with National Police Curriculum.

2) Detail of additional information attached.

Please see attached approved recommendation.

3) Expected benefits.

The Regional Specialist Crime Skills Programme (RSCSP) delivers training on behalf of the four constituent forces (Derbyshire Constabulary, Leicestershire Police, Northamptonshire Police, Nottinghamshire Police) within the EMSLDH collaborative arrangement. The learning programmes provided through this arrangement have been proven over many years, providing high quality training, primarily to detectives across the region.

The training delivered by the regional programme is under the terms of the CoP licencing arrangements for Home Office forces and the regional S22a collaboration agreement. All the courses delivered comply with the curriculum, specification requirements and required learning outcomes.

4) Impact of not approving the application

The training is delivered by suitably qualified contracted associate trainers, procured, managed and quality assured by EMSLDH. They are funded through the EMSLDH budget, and the programmes are delivered on any given year dependent on demand and the finance required available to meet that need.

These courses are required to ensure detectives across the region have the necessary skills and knowledge to investigate a range of crime types, including those causing the most serious harm to our communities. Many of these crime types affect the most vulnerable within our communities, and the investigating officers work within these high-risk areas of policing and therefore need the specialist skills and knowledge provided by these courses to effectively undertake investigations and protect the public.

This is particularly relevant to those officers working within the Safeguarding or Public Protection units, undertaking investigations into serious child abuse or child death investigations. It is crucial that officers have the relevant training to understand the medical processes, forensic issues, legal framework, partnership issues etc that arise from such investigations, along with the impacts of the investigation on those affected.

Effective investigative interviewing is a foundational element in modern policing. High-quality interviews with victims, witnesses, and suspects are essential in driving investigations forward, gathering critical evidence, and ensuring just outcomes. Skilled interviewers not only help secure prosecutions but also play an important role in protecting the innocent. Professionalism and integrity are at the heart of every successful investigative interview. Investigators must approach each interview with impartiality, fairness, and respect, ensuring that all individuals involved are treated without bias. This training provides detective officers across the region with the required skills.

The training provided within this programme is critical in ensuring that officers are sufficiently skilled to deliver the service that our communities deserve and that victims of crime are afforded the support from the police to achieve the best possible outcome. If this training is not provided it will leave many detective officers ill equipped to investigate serious crimes across the region. It will have a significant negative impact on the capability and operational effectiveness on forces within the region, impacting on service delivery and the public.

5) Financial implications (including any cost savings)

Please find below a breakdown of the financial implications per Lot:

Course Costs Based on Bids

Lot	Course Title	Supplier	Number of courses per year	Current cost per course (excluding VAT @20%)	Total estimated contract cost per year	Total estimated contract cost
1	SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood) – 4/5 days duration (<i>changing to 6 days including Hydra</i>)	CARMAR Consultants	1 – 4	£4,980	£19,920 (if 4 courses per year)	£79,680 2yr contract with option for another 2yrs
2	Specialist Investigative Interviewer (victims, witnesses & suspects) – 3 weeks duration.	CARMAR Consultants	4	£14,700	£58,800	£235,200 2yr contract with option for another 2yrs
3	SCAIDP (Specialist Child Abuse Investigators' Development Portfolio) – 8 days duration.	Opto Training Ltd	4	£10,995	£43,980	£175,920 2yr contract with option for another 2yrs

Total Estimated Contract Value = £490,800 excl VAT

The region has the ability and capability to control the demand and timely delivery of courses to ensure maximum officers are trained each year.

- 6) Consultations (Details of any consultations that have been carried out or reason as to why no consultations has taken place):

Open Tender was published.

- 7) Collaboration (is there an opportunity to collaborate with partners)

The Regional Specialist Crime Skills Programme (RSCSP) delivers training on behalf of the four constituent forces within the EMSLDH collaborative arrangement.

8) Equality, Diversity & Human Rights implications

Not Applicable

9) Legal comments

Legal Service have reviewed the specification.

10) Publication

It is appropriate to publish this record of decision made by the Police and Crime Police and Crime Commissioner: **No**

It is appropriate to publish the contents of the supporting papers: **No**

It is appropriate to publish details of the decision by the Police and Crime Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire: **Yes, able to publish high level details of award.**

Reasons for any non-Publication (referencing appropriate legislation):

Information within the Decision Record is commercially sensitive.

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) and other legislation. Unless the information provided is covered by an exemption and stated to be either confidential or partly confidential, the information contained in the form will be published on the OPCC website.

Chief Finance Officer:**Comments:**

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report and assurances sought have been outlined within the report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Signature:**Name: Kira Knott****Date: 08/05/2025**

Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer:**Comments:**

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that legal and equalities advice have been taken into account in the preparation of this report and assurances sought have been outlined in this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Signature**Name Claire Trewartha****Date 08/05/2025**

Police and Crime Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire:

Having received the advice set out above and reviewed relevant documentation my decision in regard of this matter is:

I confirm that my register of interests' declaration is up to date and that none of my interests preclude me from making this decision.

Signature:**Date: 13/05/2025****Name of Police and Crime Commissioner: Rupert Matthews**