

Report to: Professional Standards Committee
Date: Wednesday 24 October 2012
Agenda Item: 9
Subject: IPCC Section 26 Agreement
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For: Recommendation to the full Authority

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1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 This paper attaches the final draft of the revised Section 26 Agreement between the IPCC and BTPA. This is presented for approval for recommendation to the full Authority.

2. Background

- 2.1 BTPA is required to have a Section 26 Agreement with the IPCC by the 'Forces Maintained Otherwise than by Police Authorities Order 2004' which is pursuant of Section 26 of the Police Reform Act 2002 (the 2002 Act). The current agreement requires updating to refer to the new regulations that will come into force from 22 November.
- 2.2 The Section 26 Agreement applies Part 2 and Schedule 3 of the 2002 Act¹ to the BTP, with the agreed amendments described in the Agreement.

3. The Agreement

- 3.1 The current agreement, signed in 2007, is terminated by the new version (attached as Appendix A) from 22 November 2012. The new Agreement includes a list of interpretations specific to BTP and the BTP 2012 Regulations covering the areas where BTP differs from Home Office forces. The most notable of which is with respect to appropriate authorities. It then applies Part 2 and Schedule 3 of the 2002 Act in accordance with the interpretations.
- 3.2 The Agreement requires sign off by the Home Secretary and Chief Executive of BTPA. Therefore, it is important that the document be finalised soon as possible.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Committee to approve the Section 26 Agreement for recommendation to the full Authority.

¹ As amended by the Serious and Organised Crime Act 2005 and Schedule 14 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011