



**ASSOCIATION OF
CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS**



Distribution:

Chief Officers
Chairs of Police Authorities
Chief Executives of Police Authorities
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime

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x August 2012

Dear Colleagues

**NATIONAL POLICE AIR SERVICE (NPAS) – SINGLE NATIONAL
COLLABORATION AGREEMENT – GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

On 7 August, the National Collaboration Agreement for NPAS was sent out to all chief officers and police authorities for signature. Following a discussions with the APA and the Lead Local Policing Body, we are writing to clarify a key aspect of the governance arrangements for NPAS and in particular, the composition and role of the Strategic Board.

It is essential that the governance arrangements for NPAS fully recognise the important role that police bodies will have in setting the direction of NPAS and overseeing its delivery through the Strategic Board. Its membership must therefore comprise a mix of elected officials, chief officers and other key stakeholders, including the Aviation Portfolio Holder for ACPO and a representative of the Home Secretary. Getting the balance right regarding the responsibilities for decision making is critical and the following has been agreed between ACPO, the APA and the Lead Local Policing Body to clarify the arrangements described in Schedule 2 of the Collaboration Agreement:

1. The NPAS Strategic Board shall comprise of a Local Police Body and a Chief Police Officer (or their representatives) from each of the six NPAS air support regions. These twelve individuals shall hold voting rights on the Board. All other members of the Board, including the Lead Local Policing Body and the Lead Local Chief Constable shall attend in an ex-officio capacity;
2. The Chair of the Strategic Board shall be elected from one of the six Local Police Body members and shall be appointed by the other Local Police Body representatives at the first meeting of the Board. The Chair shall have a casting vote on all decisions made by the Strategic Board;
3. Decisions concerning notice of termination to the current Lead Local Policing Body and the appointment of a successor Lead Local Policing Body can only be made by the Local Police Body members of the Strategic Board;

4. Chief Police Officers (or their representatives) shall be able to vote on all NPAS business with the exception of the budget which shall remain exclusively the responsibility of the Local Police Body members.

The arrangements described above will be subject to confirmation in discussions between the Local Police Body representatives and the remainder of the Board at the first meeting of the NPAS Strategic Board.

On behalf of ACPO and the APA, we are confident that these points of clarification will reassure Chief Executives of police authorities to recommend the signing of this Agreement to their members.

Should you have any further questions concerning the governance arrangements for NPAS, please contact Simon Newman, NPAS Programme Manager, on 07767 253797 or by e-mail: npas@npia.pnn.police.uk

Thank you for your continued support for NPAS.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Marshall
ACPO Lead



Brian Greenslade
APA Lead