



PCC DECISION

REF 2024/001

Decision Title: Final Business Case – Development Partner - SOZE

Decision summary:

The OPCC Governance & Scrutiny Board approved a Final Business Case on 12/06/24 in support of a proof of value exercise for SOZE software provided by the supplier AKKODIS. The Final Business Case supports a comprehensive plan of activity to trial SOZE software and its measurable benefits ahead of a subsequent commercial decision in September 2025 for continued investment. The Final Business Case had received earlier approval at the Constabulary Management Board on 23/05/24.

The Project will be funded within the existing Medium-Term Financial Plan.

Background or reference to supporting papers:

The Constabulary has produced a fully costed Final Business Case in support of the SOZE proposal. SOZE provides enhanced search functionality for investigations. It operates by performing searches across all data uploaded instead of the Investigator having to log in and out of different systems and devices manually. Forces currently using SOZE claim to have achieved transformational improvements in investigation quality, speed, and outcomes without the need for additional officer or analyst support.

Avon & Somerset is testing SOZE enhancements and benefits through the completion of a Proof of Value (POV) Project. This will build on the findings from the Proof of Concept (POC) completed in 2023 using more cases, data, and practitioners over 15 months.

The POV Project will allow ASP to further assess the ability of the SOZE software to deliver improvements against existing measures in the Avon & Somerset Constabulary Performance Control Strategy, identify success criteria for full adoption and quality assure any UK localisations not completed by the Constabulary during the POC timeframe. The work will build an evidence base of resources to be rationalised to deliver a roadmap for cost savings and avoidance.

The POV will also allow ASP to verify the affordability of data consumption costs with Microsoft beyond a POV, by providing an evidence base of data consumption (trends, use and costs) that makes the best use of AZURE Savings Plans and other identified discounts.

The Project has the potential to further mitigate risks in relation to analyst capacity (attraction and retention), increase in Officer workloads, an increase in the

prevalence and types of digital materials and the requirement for data literacy and the recognition of short to medium term levels of Officer inexperience.

The OPCC decision is supported by the evidence base provided by the Final Business Case document.

Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any declarations of disclosable interest in this matter. Any such interests are disclosed.

The above request has my approval.

Date 26/06/24



Police & Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset

CFO Signatures

Date 25/06/24

(OCC CFO required if decision requested or presented for approval by Constabulary)



PCC CFO

OCC CFO

Other relevant lead officer as required

Date 25/06/24

(e.g PCC CEO, COG lead)

Chief of Staff

Alice Ripley



Job title

name

signature