



SEERPIC
Protection Through Partnership

ORIGINATOR: Peter Jasper, Chair – SEERPIC

23.04.2021

REASON FOR SUBMISSION:

To provide context for the recommendation to sign the newly revised SEERPIC S22a by Chief Constables and Police (Fire) and Crime Commissioners of the 20 Corporations Sole that are members of SEERPIC

SUBMITTED TO:

SEERPIC Chief Constables and Police (Fire) and Crime Commissioners

SEERPIC s22a – BRIEFING REPORT

The objective of this report is to brief Chief Constables and Police (Fire) and Crime Commissioners on the recommendation to sign the updated and revised SEERPIC Section 22a agreement. This report can also act as a supporting document to any governance arrangements / decision notices required in each force / OP(F)CC.

SEERPIC has been in existence for 20 years, operating as an insurance purchasing consortium, but also as a vehicle to lever improvements of managing risk across the 10 participating forces / 20 corporations sole with the aim of securing best value of insurance for members.

In 2015, a Section 22a (S22a) was drafted to formalise the arrangements under an appropriate agreement. The draft was finalised and agreed in principle and a number of corporations sole did sign the agreement. However, the sign-off process broke down and the S22a was not signed by all 20 corporations sole, and therefore has been used as a guide document to help frame an approach for resolving difficult and complex decisions.

The 2015 document, as a guide, has supported the day-to-day running of the SEERPIC model overseen by the Board, and discharged through the SEERPIC practitioners from the 10 forces. All appropriate insurance tenders and renewals have been delivered on time, and work to improve risk management across key lines of business (in particular motor) has been ongoing.

However, it is clearly a governance weakness not to have a fully signed S22a in place to cover the arrangements that have been business as usual for many years, and therefore imperative that a robust S22a is signed by all principals.

Therefore, recently renewed efforts have been made to update the s22a to ensure it is relevant, accurately reflecting the SEERPIC model and its governance, giving clarity on roles and responsibilities, and introducing references to specific SEERPIC roles funded by the 10F.

In addition, the S22a formalises arrangements around the running of the Board (quorate, voting rights and principles) and outlines the approach termination and withdrawal that gives transparency and clarity to the arrangements and protection to all participating members. In practice, over the 20 years, the partnership approach has avoided disputes and the Board has always overcome issues and difficulties, but clearly such a complex governance model should have the safety net of a formal arrangement.

The final draft, attached and recommended for signing, has been reviewed in detail over several months by the SEERPIC Board, and within the 10 forces. The Norfolk Head of Legal, on request of the new SEERPIC Chair, has completed a significant re-draft to update and make the S22a consistent with the APACE national template, and reflect and update the draft with comments and feedback from Board members, some OPCC Chief Executives, force legal representatives and insurance practitioners.

The SEERPIC Board supports and endorses this version for signing by each corporation sole.

RECOMMENDATION:

That through local governance arrangements, all participating SEERPIC Chief Constables and Police (Fire) and Crime Commissioners sign the SEERPIC Section 22a, and formalise the SEERPIC model under this agreement.