Decision by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire

Subject: Commissioning of External Public Affairs Support Regarding Police Reform
Report of: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Date: 22/10/2026

Summary

The Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed to:

- **Commission external public affairs support regarding police reform,** to support the PCC in representing Hertfordshire's interests following the results of the PCC's public consultation on police reform.
- **Appoint Anacta Strategies for an initial three-month period,** following the request and evaluation of quotations in accordance with procurement rules.
- **Use the commissioned support to help influence key national developments,** including the Government's response to the Independent Review of Police Structures, the Home Office's preparations for the Police Reform Bill, and the policing and crime elements of the Devolution Delivery Plan being prepared by Number 10 North.

The proposal reflects the PCC's concerns about the impact and pace of work being led by the Association of Police & Crime Commissioners, with separate, bespoke public affairs support considered appropriate to ensure Hertfordshire's interests are effectively represented.

EMT considered and supported the proposal on 22 October 2026, with the Senior Policy Advisor to progress the contract award and implementation

Recommendation

To note the decision.

I hereby approve the decision above.

Jonathan Ash Edwards
Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire
Date: 22 October 2026