

OUTLINE FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT

FOR THE

NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY

1. Foreword by Home Secretary and Director General

2. Introduction

- Mission of the National Crime Agency (NCA)
- Status of the Framework Document as set out in the Crime and Courts [Bill], including its subordination to legislation
- Publication of the Framework Document

3. Status

- Legal status of the NCA as set out in the Crime and Courts [Bill]

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- The Home Secretary's powers and responsibilities (as set out in the Crime and Courts [Bill]), including:
 - setting strategic priorities
 - appointing the Director General
 - designating the Director General with operational powers (based on the recommendations of the advisory panel)
- The Director General's powers and responsibilities as set out in the Crime and Courts [Bill], including:
 - direction and control of the NCA
 - setting operational priorities
 - issuing Annual Plan and Annual Report
 - designating NCA officers with operational powers
- Further responsibilities of the Director General, which will include financial management and stewardship of NCA corporate governance arrangements
- Operational independence of the Director General

5. Accountability to the Home Secretary

- Direct accountability of the Director General to the Home Secretary
- How that accountability relationship will be supported by Home Office officials
- Parliamentary accountability

6. Internal Governance

- Delegation of Director General functions to senior NCA officers
 - The definition of a senior NCA officer for that purpose
- The NCA Management Board
 - The Director General will establish and chair a Management Board
 - Description of the role of the Board
 - Composition of the Board which will include:
 - Ex officio members
 - Non-executive members
 - Further committees may be established by the Board and must include committees on Audit and Risk, and on Nominations and Governance.
 - The Board will give effect to the “Six Principles” that the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) will: retain its operational independence within the context of the NCA; have clear, delegated authority for its budget; continue to include external partners in its governance; retain its well-known CEOP brand; retain its mixed economy of staff, from a variety of disciplines; and continue its innovative partnerships with the public, private and third sector and have the ability to raise and hold funds from donors.

7. Financial management and accountability

- Director General Accounting Officer (AO) role
- NCA Management Board to apply HM Treasury guidance on the proper stewardship of public funds
- The AO’s responsibilities to Parliament

- NCA funding arrangements
- Fees and Charges
 - NCA power to raise fees and charges; approvals needed from HM Treasury to retain funds; ability of CEOP to retain incomes raised including from donors.
- Internal Audit
- External Audit
- Police pensions (as referenced in Schedule 8, para 25 (5) (10) of the Crime and Courts [Bill])

8. Performance management and reporting

- Strategic and operational priorities (where set) to be reflected in business planning
- Director General responsibility for in-year performance reporting to the Home Secretary
- Reporting of performance in NCA Annual Report and Accounts.

9. Working in Partnership

- Partnership working: the approach
- Engagement with devolved policing bodies and accountability structures
- Tasking and assistance
 - Updating the Home Secretary on tasking and assistance arrangements
 - Director General to notify Home Secretary and relevant Police and Crime Commissioner, as soon as feasible, each time he or she issues a direction under Part 1 of the Act to perform a task or provide assistance, including explanation of why it was necessary to issue a direction.
- Tasking and assistance arrangements between NCA, UK Border Agency (UKBA) and Border Force:
 - Co-operation
 - Voluntary tasking and assistance
 - Directed tasking and assistance

- NCA use of immigration or customs facilities

10. Scrutiny, transparency and information

- Scrutiny
- Duty to publish information in accordance with publication arrangements (to be set out in an Annex)
- Public information handling and complaints

11. Arrangements for changing the Framework Document

- Frequency of reviews
- Consultation

12. Interpretation

- Terms used in this Framework Document will have the same meaning as set out in section 16 of the Crime and Courts [Bill].