



Executive summary:

The decision not to go ahead with the version 7 upgrade of UNIFI was made in October 2015.

The reason this decision was made at the time was due to a number of factors, including the view that UNIFI would not provide the Constabulary with the required functionality into the future and that the system and service was not supported contractually by the suppliers. Other police forces were also moving away from UNIFI, to the point where there are only a few forces left utilising the system and service. The Constabulary was also informally in the process of reviewing other systems and services to support the required functionality provided by UNIFI.

The decision not to upgrade the current system from version 6 to version 7, took the above factors into account and the decision was agreed. Unfortunately time has now passed and over the last 18 months, a number of key, critical functional upgrades have been required to be implemented into UNIFI and embedded within the Constabulary's operational policing services. This has created, in some cases a difficult development cycle for the supplier and has in some cases increased cost.

The Constabulary is currently at a point where it may not be able to support version 6 UNIFI effectively either via the ICT Team or the supplier to the levels of service required by the Constabulary. This poses a risk to the Constabulary in the provision of this system and service, which is core critical business to the operational activity of the force. The Constabulary is increasing its risk to both operational functions and process and legal compliance. It therefore recommended that UNIFI be upgraded to version 7, enabling greater mitigation of the issues and risks detailed within this report. Over £260k had already been committed to upgrading to version 7, prior to the work being suspended.

Recommendations (with reasons for that recommendation)

This paper requested that a project be set up to upgrade UNIFI to ensure the following:

- the high levels of potential future issues and risks (eg Custody) are mitigated
- that the associated and significant benefits of upgrading to a number of key business areas are realised
- the need to meet continued legislative and operationally critical requirements expected of and by the Constabulary

Police and Crime Commissioner

The above requests have my approval.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MASI', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 28 February 2017