1.0 Summary of Changes

1.1 This is a new joint policy for Essex Police and Kent Police.

2.0 What this Policy is About

2.1 This policy applies to any officer involved in taking DNA samples from suspects, victims or crime scenes or involved with the evidence or intelligence these samples generate.

2.2 This policy also applies to all staff (police and police staff) who are likely to attend, or who regularly attend, crime scenes or those who handle exhibits or materials, which are subject to forensic, or DNA analysis.

Compliance with this policy and any linked procedures is mandatory.

3.0 Statement of Policy

3.1 The purpose of this policy is to provide a reference document for those involved in the collection of DNA samples or those who use DNA evidence or intelligence.

3.2 All samples should be taken in line with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) codes of practice.

3.3 Some procedures/SOPs differ per force and both procedures/SOPs are documented where applicable.

4.0 Implications of the Policy

4.1 Finance / Staffing / Training / Other

4.1.1 No financial or staffing implications have been identified in the creation of this policy.

4.2 Risk Assessment(s)

4.2.1 This policy has been assessed as low risk.

4.3 Equality Impact Assessment

4.3 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and shows the proposals in this policy would have no potential or actual differential impact on grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, transgender, disability, age, religion or belief or sexual orientation.
5.0 Consultation

5.1 The following were asked to consult on this document:

- Principal CSI, Submissions, Intelligence, Custody
- H&S, Unison, Federation, Diversity

6.0 Monitoring and Review

6.1 This policy will be monitored by the policy owner and will be reviewed every two years. Performance data is published on a monthly basis.

7.0 Related force policies or related procedures (Essex) / linked standard operating procedures (Kent)

- S 2301 Procedure/SOP - DNA Sampling, Retention and Submission

8.0 Other source documents, e.g. Legislation, APP, partnership agreements (if applicable)

- Protection of Freedoms Act 2013 (PoFA);
- Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (CPIA);
- Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE);
- Criminal Justice and Police Act (CJ&PA) 2001
- Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Crime and Policing (ASBC&P) Act)