POLICY – Counterfeit Currency

Number: S 1300  Date Published: 15 January 2018

1.0 Summary of Changes

1.1 This policy was reviewed on 15 January 2018 as part of the regular review process. The only amendment made was within section 4.3 to update the EIA protected characteristics.

2.0 What this Policy is About

2.1 The purpose of this policy is to give guidance and structure to the seizure and submission of uttered counterfeit currency. It predominately applies to all operational police officers and staff employees.

_Compliance with this policy and any linked procedures is mandatory._

3.0 Statement of Policy

3.1 The NCA (National Crime Agency) through its UKNCO (UK National Central Office) has the responsibility for co-ordination and circulation of intelligence in respect of counterfeit currency offences nationally and are the central police liaison point with the Bank of England.

3.2 SCD Intelligence will act as a single point of contact for the UKNCO. It will be responsible for identifying trends and patterns of counterfeit currency offences, and the co-ordination of intelligence on LPA/Division.

3.3 Nationally agreed policy states that no publicity, either nationally or locally may be given to the press, in respect of suspected counterfeit Bank of England currency without prior consultation with UKNCO.

3.4 All recovered counterfeit currency should be submitted to the UKNCO within 7 days although it can be exceeded if necessary for the effective investigation.

3.5 If requested the UKNCO will return notes to the officer whilst an investigation is ongoing for fingerprint /DNA treatment etc.

3.6 Recoveries of £5,000 or more face value should be notified to the UKNCO within 48 hours.

3.8 Persons involved in Counterfeit Currency will adhere to the following standard operation procedures:

- S 1301 Procedure/SOP - Investigation of Counterfeit Currency;
- S 1302 Procedure/SOP - Return of Genuine Currency

3.9 Where counterfeit currency is found within the banking system and there is no information available that would enable there to be a realistic prospect of a successful police investigation it will be known as dead utterings and returned to the issuing bank.

4.0 Implications of the Policy

4.1 Finance / Staffing / Training / Other

4.1.1 None identified.

4.2 Risk Assessment(s)

4.2.1 This policy has been assessed as low risk.

4.3 Equality Impact Assessment

4.3.1 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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, marriage and civil partnership, sexual orientation, gender reassignment and pregnancy and maternity.

5.0 Consultation

5.1 This policy has been prepared in consultation with:

- SCD-SECU
- Finance
- Legal
- Human Resources
- Estates
- IT Security
- Health & Safety
- Freedom of Information
- Equality and Diversity
6.0 Monitoring and Review

6.1 This policy is due for review every 12 months from the date of publication to ensure it remains accurate and fit for purpose. The review will be conducted by the Head of Serious Economic Crime Unit, SCD.

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

- S 1301 Procedure/SOP - Investigation of Counterfeit Currency;
- S 1302 Procedure/SOP - Return of Genuine Currency

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

- Counterfeit Currency – Initial Action and Investigation Flowchart
- Counterfeit Currency – Submissions and Statements Flowchart
- Counterfeit Currency – Charging and Prosecution Flowchart