

Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Panel

Tuesday 4 February 2020
10.30 am Somerset West and Taunton,
Council Chamber



To: The Members of the Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Panel

Issued By Scott Wooldridge, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 27 January 2020

For further information about the meeting, please contact Patricia Jones Democratic Services, Somerset County Council or email jjackson@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

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AGENDA

Item Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Panel - 10.30 am Tuesday 4 February 2020

**** Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annexe ****

1 **Apologies for Absence**

2 **Public Question Time**

Statements or questions should be e-mailed to PLJones@somerset.gov.uk, or sent to the Democratic Services Team, County Hall Taunton TA1 4DY (marked for the attention of Patricia Jones). Statements must be received no later than 12.00 noon on **Monday 3rd February 2020**. Questions must be received no later than 3 clear working days before the meeting.

3 **Declarations of Interest**

The Statutory Register of Member's Interests can be inspected by contacting Patricia Jones in the Democratic Services Team on Tel: 07855 284506 or PLJones@somerset.gov.uk.

4 **Minutes from the meeting held on 11 December 2019 (to follow).**

To confirm as a correct record.

5 **Chairman's Business**

6 **Chief Constable Presentation**

7 **Scrutiny of the Medium Term Financial Plan and Precept Proposal. (Pages 5 - 50)**

8 **Commissioner's Update Report (Pages 51 - 58)**

9 **Police and Crime Performance Report Quarter 3 (Pages 59 - 72)**

10 **Standing Complaints Report (Pages 73 - 74)**

11 **Annex 1 Table of Complaints against PCC - 4 Feb 2020 (Pages 75 - 76)**

12 **Work Programme (Pages 77 - 80)**

13 **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is scheduled on 11th March 2020 at 10.30am (formal Panel meeting The Deane House)

Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Panel

Public Information Sheet

Inspection of Papers/Register of Member Interests

You can find papers for all our meetings on our website at www.somerset.gov.uk

Please contact Patricia Jones, Senior Democratic Services Officer on telephone: 01275 885788 if you wish to inspect the papers or the Statutory Register of Member's Interests.

Public Question Time

Members of the public may make a written statement to most meetings, provided that:

- the statement is received by the Democratic Services Team no later than **12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting**; and
- the statement is about a matter the Panel has responsibility for.

Statements should be e-mailed to PLJones@somerset.gov.uk or sent to Somerset County Council, Democratic Services Team, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY.

Any statement submitted should be no longer than one side of A4 paper. For copyright reasons, we are unable to reproduce or publish newspaper or magazine articles that may be attached to statements.

By participating in Public Question Time business, we will assume that you have consented to your name and the details of your submission being recorded in the papers circulated to the committee. This information will also be made available at the meeting to which it relates and placed in the official minute book as a public record.

We will try to remove personal information such as contact details. However, because of time constraints we cannot guarantee this, and you may therefore wish to consider if your statement contains information that you would prefer not to be in the public domain. Statements will not be posted on the council's website.

Process during the meeting:

- Public Question Time is normally one of the first items on the agenda. If a statement concerns a specific item on the agenda, it may be taken just before the item concerned.
- The Chair will call each submission in turn. When you are invited to speak, please make sure that your presentation focuses on the key issues that you would like Members to consider. This will have the greatest impact.
- You may direct any questions or comments through the Chairman. You may not take direct part in the debate.
- Your time allocation may have to be strictly limited if there are a lot of submissions before the meeting.
- You do not have to speak or even attend the meeting at which your submission is being taken. However, if you do not present it, then it will not be read out. It will nevertheless be noted by Members.

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Excluding the Press and Public

Occasionally, there will be items on the agenda that cannot be debated in public for legal reasons and these will be highlighted on the agenda as appropriate. In these circumstances, the public and press will be asked to leave the room and the Panel will go into Private Session.

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We would ask that, as far as possible, members of the public are not filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

4 FEBRUARY 2020

REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

COVER REPORT - SCRUTINY OF THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP) AND PROPOSED PRECEPT

- 1.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner is required under Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to inform the Police and Crime Panel of the proposed police precept in order for the PCP to carry out their role in scrutiny of the precept decision in accordance with the process and statutory timescales detailed in Schedule 5.
- 1.2 The PCP has been kept informed and consulted throughout the budget setting process, with an informal budget briefing held on 8 October 2019 and the draft Medium Term Financial Plan presented to the Panel following their meeting on 11 December 2019.
- 1.3 Members will be aware of the challenge presented by timings with respect to the budget setting process for 2020/21 with the General Election held in December delaying Government announcements on departmental grant settlements. PCCs have maintained close engagement with the Home Office throughout this period to seek urgent clarification in relation to the grant and precept flexibility in order to meet statutory timescales set out in Schedule 5 of the Police Crime and Social Responsibility Act 2011. In view of the timing of the Home Office Grant Settlement announcement, the substantive report setting out proposals for consideration by the Panel will be finalised and circulated to Panel Members as soon as practicable in advance of the Panel meeting.

Contact Officer:

Mark Simmonds, Interim Chief Executive

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MEETINGS: Police & Crime Panel	DATE: 4 th February 2020	AGENDA NO:
DEPARTMENT: PCC's Office - Finance	AUTHORS: Nick Adams - CFO ASC	
NAME OF PAPER: 2020/21 Medium Term Financial Plan, Precept and Budget Requirement		

1. RECOMMENDATION

The Police and Crime Panel is asked to consider and support the following recommendation that will be tabled at the Police and Crime Board on 5th February 2020.

That the Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset (PCC) considers the budget proposals and background information covered in the Medium Term Financial Plan and approves, subject to consultation with the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i. A revenue budget requirement for 20/21 of £328.451m
- ii. An initial capital plan for 20/21 of £19.887m
- iii. Funded in part by a proposed council tax precept to be levied in respect of general expenses of £130.068m (equivalent to a Council Tax Band D of £227.81 – an increase of £10 on 2019/20), to be apportioned to each collecting authority according to the following table:-

	Tax Base (No.)	£'000	%
Bath and North East Somerset Council	66,879.90	15,236	11.7%
Bristol City Council	128,566.00	29,289	22.5%
North Somerset Council	79,185.00	18,039	13.9%
South Gloucestershire Council	96,745.00	22,039	16.9%
Mendip District Council	40,978.57	9,335	7.2%
Sedgemoor District Council	41,435.78	9,439	7.3%
South Somerset District Council	60,710.78	13,831	10.6%
Somerset West and Taunton Deane Council	56,449.87	12,860	9.9%
TOTAL	570,951.00	130,068	100.0%

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND BACKGROUND

Our Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) sets out the financial plans for both revenue and capital budgets over the next five years. It is prepared:-

- following discussions and consultation with budget holders;
- in conjunction with service and workforce planning; and
- through ongoing conversations between the PCC and the Chief Constable.

By necessity, the paper has been delayed whilst we awaited confirmation of the police grant settlement, which was conveyed to us on 23rd January 2020. This paper is therefore

reflective of the final settlement detail and as well as the final council tax position supplied to us by our local collecting authorities.

3. COUNCIL TAX CONSIDERATIONS AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The final plan reflects an **increase in council tax of £10 in 2020/21**, representing the maximum increase permitted without incurring the cost and risk of a local referendum. The decision to increase the precept by £10 is reflective of:-

- The result of the public consultation (see below) which demonstrated overwhelming support for increases to the policing precept; and
- The opportunity to support investment in an additional 75 police staff investigator roles, and maintaining the 15 additional PCSO's working with schools which were introduced in 2019/20 utilising the serious violence grant.

From 2021/22 onwards our plans assume annual increase of 1.99% p.a. The impact on the average band d policing precept over the course of the MTFP period is as follows:

	Actual	MTFP				
	19/20 £p	20/21 £p	21/22 £p	22/23 £p	23/24 £p	24/25 £p
Av. Band D Precept	£217.81	£227.81	£232.34	£236.97	£241.68	£246.49
Annual increase %		+4.59%	+1.99%	+1.99%	+1.99%	+1.99%
Annual increase £p		+£10.00	+£4.53	+£4.62	+£4.72	+£4.81

The PCC has formally consulted the public on its views regarding the precept through surveys conducted throughout the year. The results of these surveys confirm continued support from the public to increases in the policing precept. The following table sets out the results of this survey:-

Apr – Sep 2019; Survey Results	No.	%
An average increase of £24 in council tax (£2 per month)	984	65.6%
An average increase of £12 in council tax (£1 per month)	240	16.0%
Keep it the same as its current level	125	8.3%
Don't know	151	10.1%
TOTAL Surveyed	1,500	100.0%

Oct – Dec 2019; Survey Results	No.	%
A 4% increase – average of 70p per month	545	72.7%
A 2% increase – average of 35p per month	156	20.8%
Keep it the same as its current level	15	2.0%
Don't know	34	4.5%
TOTAL Surveyed	750	100.0%

4. REVENUE PLAN HEADLINES

Our MTFP forecasts the following position

	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Budget requirement	328,451	341,669	354,957	367,728	379,610
Less; funding	328,451	341,669	354,957	365,228	375,610
Deficit	balanced	balanced	balanced	2,500	4,000

In summary we are forecasting a balanced position for the next 3 years followed by a deficit position of £2.5m in 23/24 rising to £4.0m in 24/25. Within this we have accounted for:-

- An **extra 403 police officers by March 2023**, being the anticipated allocation of 368 extra officers through Government funding, as well as an additional 35 officers funded from local efficiencies;
- A new **investment of 75 additional police staff investigator posts**, and maintenance of the uplift of **15 PCSO's** which was funded from 19/20 serious violence grant, both of which are made by possible by the additional precept flexibility of a £10 increase;
- An increase to our revenue contributions to **support capital investment** across our digital capabilities, as well as our estate, fleet and equipment requirements.

The key assumptions that underpin this forecast include:-

- Increases in **revenue grant funding** (+£43.6m by 24/25) to both support the cost of delivering the uplift in officer numbers and provide for an annual 2.5% inflationary increase to help us in managing the wider pressures forecast on our budget;
- Increases in **council tax funding** (+£25.7m by 24/25) achieved through both increases to the precept (see above) and increases to the tax base of 1% in 20/21, followed by 1.5% increases p.a. thereafter;
- Annual increases to **pay costs** (+£35.7m by 24/25) of 3% p.a. reflecting the ongoing relaxation of the restrictions placed on pay increases for police officers and staff after several years of freezes;
- Increases in the cost of **pensions** (+£4.5m by 24/25), reflecting the confirmed increases to staff pensions effective from April 2020, and provision for further upward pressure in these costs in future years;
- Increases in **non-pay costs** (+£5.1m by 24/25) driven by both general and specific (e.g. fuel, utilities) inflationary pressures;
- Increases in our **cost of capital costs** (+£1.3m by 24/25) as we provision for uplifts to direct and indirect revenue consequences of funding our capital plans;
- Increases in costs to support **new growth and investment** (+£38.3m) which includes the delivery of increases in officer numbers that exceed the Governments officer uplift targets, as well as provision for local growth funded through the precept and within our existing efficiency plans;
- Delivery of new **planned savings** (-£7.1m – of which £6.7m already achieved) and a further **targeted savings** (-£2.0m) by 22/23 which will be focus of ongoing work.

5. CAPITAL PLAN HEADLINES AND RESERVES

The draft capital programme forecasts the following position:-

	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Forecast Capital Expenditure	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	20,518	7,369
Less; Forecast Capital Funding	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	12,765	7,369
Deficit	balanced	balanced	balanced	balanced	7,843	balanced

In summary we are forecasting:-

- Total capital expenditure of £93.4m over this financial year, and the next 5 years;
- Total capital funding of £85.6m over the same period;
- Resulting in a shortfall of £7.8m in 23/24 at this point in our planning process.

Some of the key areas of capital investment are:-

- **ICT Asset replacement** – the plan includes £28.7m for the ongoing replacement of IT assets, which include both end user devices (e.g. laptops, mobile phones, body worn video cameras) as well as IT infrastructure (e.g. networks, security and storage);
- **Fleet replacement** – the plan includes £16.1m for the ongoing replacement of our fleet of vehicles;
- **Emergency Services Network (ESN)** – the plan includes £11.5m to implement this national airwave (police radios) replacement programme. The timing and value of this project remains the subject of significant ambiguity at this point in our planning, with the expectation of the final business case being available in February 2020;
- **ERP system** – the plan includes an estimate of £7.5m to replace our Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system which provides for HR, financial and procurement capabilities;
- **New Yeovil police station** – the plan includes £5.8m investment to support this project to re-provision a new fit for purpose police station on our existing site;

Our plans will remain subject to ongoing review, particularly in relation to national programmes as the outlook for these becomes clearer.

Our Capital funding forecasts assume:-

- A reduction in our Home Office **capital grant** funding (confirmed in the settlement announcements), to £0.3m p.a.
- An uplift to our recurring **contribution from revenue budgets** to help compensate for this loss of capital grant. Our revenue budgets will support an annual recurring contribution of £7m towards capital projects;
- After an initial increase in our **capital reserves** to £13.9m at the end of 19/20 (reflecting the forecast use of funding against the 19/20 plan), we forecast that these reserves will be fully used by the end of 23/24;
- Use of **Capital receipts**, after being realised through the sale of buildings and other assets. This will exhaust all current planned opportunities to generate receipts from the sale of buildings in our estate;
- **Borrowing** a further £12m of borrowing is planned, of which £6m will be taken by the end of the 2019/20 financial year. This borrowing will be used to fund our

investment in longer life assets (e.g. buildings). The revenue cost of this borrowing has been built into our revenue forecasts.

6. RESERVES AND MANAGEMENT OF FINANCIAL RISK

Decisions on **reserves** will be taken once the 2019/20 outturn position is clear – this is currently projected a small 1.1% underspend due to timing of recruitment during the year.

Given the uncertainty and risk being managed by the PCC and the forecast gap in capital funding (see above) – a transfer of any underspend into capital reserves at year-end is recommended, and it is on this basis that our MTFP has been modelled.

Current reserve levels are £38.7m of which £9.6m are ring-fenced for non-discretionary purposes (e.g. PFI accounting, regional funds, road safety funds). This level of reserves is substantially reduced from their peak £60 million in 2015 and the Avon & Somerset level remains very close to the national average level held by PCCs as % of revenue spend.

Our MTFP forecasts an initial increase in the level of reserves at the end of 2019/20, in line with the above recommendation to transfer revenue underspends to capital funding. This is then forecast to reduce annually over the next five years as funds are used in support of our capital plans.

Our plans recognise a number of **risks** in relation to financial planning. These include:-

- Grant Funding – The grant funding confirmed in the settlement only provides information for the 20/21, with the value of future grant funding to be determined through the Spending Review expected to happen over the Summer of 2020. We have made assumptions that funding will continue to grow to both support the cost of delivering the officer uplift, as well as for an inflationary pressures to enable us to manage increases in existing costs. If our assumptions are inaccurate our plans will need to be revised;
- Funding formula – police grant funding is distributed in accordance with a historic formula, which has been widely discredited as effective. This may be reviewed during the course of the MTFP, affecting Avon & Somerset's allocation of main grant. Any weighting of the formula further away from population will see reductions in funding;
- Capital Plan – is currently unfunded in year 4 after using all existing capital reserves and capital receipts, and after sustainable increase to our revenue funding for capital and a material uplift in borrowing (see above);
- Pension costs – Pressures on employers' contributions continue to increase. This year the LGPS contribution has been increased from 13.2% to 16.3%. Last year the contribution for police pension increased in 2019 from 24% to 31%. The recent age discrimination ruling will increase pension liabilities in coming years;
- Pay and inflation – we have provided (see above) for pay awards and inflation but there remains a risk of pay awards outstripping the increases in grant and precept funding;
- National Police Programmes (e.g. ESN) – the scope and ambition of National programmes is increasing. This includes several initiatives which have already seen both delays and rising costs, some of which could be passed onto individual PCCs.

7. EQUALITY ANALYSIS

All business cases in support of change, both with revenue and capital implications are subject to an equality impact assessment. This way we can ensure that those decisions on how we allocate our funding across budgets and plans are cognisant of equality issues.

8. SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is important in regard to ensuring the organisation is living within both its financial limits (financial sustainability) as well as within its environmental limits through ensuring effective and efficient use of natural resources. In fulfilling the objectives in terms of financial sustainability, this report, and our regular quarterly financial reports, ensure we are able to maintain a good overview of our financial sustainability. Wider environmental sustainability considerations are also accounted for within the budget and capital programme.



Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner

Medium Term Financial Plan

2020/21 – 2024/25

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Introduction	6
Revenue Funding	7
The Revenue budget requirement	13
Revenue savings requirement and plans	20
Capital Programme and Funding	22
Reserves and Risk	29
Appendix A – MTFP	33
Appendix B – Revenue Funding Forecasts	34
Appendix C – Revenue Costs Forecasts	35
Appendix D – Capital Programme	36
Appendix E – Reserves Forecasts	37

Executive Summary

The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) provides important context for the PCC and the Constabulary in its forward strategic planning. It is prepared following discussions and consultation with budget holders, in conjunction with service and workforce planning and through ongoing conversations between the PCC and Chief Constable and their respective teams.

This plan sets out a more positive financial position for the PCC and the Constabulary than has been the case in recent years. Our funding is set to increase significantly, reflecting the ambitions to uplift police officer numbers announced by the Government during 2019.

	Forecast				
	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Budget requirement	335,165	349,649	364,020	376,789	388,672
Less; Total funding	328,451	341,669	354,957	365,228	375,610
(Surplus)/Deficit before savings	6,714	7,980	9,062	11,562	13,062
Savings	(6,714)	(7,980)	(9,062)	(9,062)	(9,062)
(Surplus)/Deficit after savings	-	-	-	2,500	4,000

These increases enable us to plan for the delivery of the ambitious uplift programme, and support local investments to increase capacity, particularly in relation to our investigations directorate. Once our planned savings have been accounted for, we are able to present a plan which is balanced in 2020/21. Thereafter we have continued our plan for savings, and recognised the need to identify a further savings target of £1m in 2021/22 rising to £2m to 2022/23 to balance the revenue budget in each of those years.

The plan supports the delivery of our share of the extra 20,000 police officers being recruited across England and Wales. Our initial target of 137 to be achieved by March 2021 has been increased locally to an extra 165 officers. Thereafter we have assumed a total share of the national target of 368 by March 2023, which we have increased locally to 403 extra officers – **increasing our officer establishment to 3,150 FTE by the end of the 2022/23 financial year.**

	Confirmed		Assumed			
	Mar 20 FTE	Mar 21 FTE	Mar 22 FTE	Mar 23 FTE	Mar 24 FTE	Mar 25 FTE
Total National Officer Uplift	2,000	6,000	13,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Less; allocation to non-territorial	-	-	-2,000	-4,000	-4,000	-4,000
Balance for territorial policing	2,000	6,000	11,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
A&S target – based on grant share @ 2.3%	+46	+137	+253	+368	+368	+368
Locally stretched officer uplift target	+46	+165	+293	+403	+403	+403

The key assumptions that follow from this forecast position are:-

- Our funding is forecast to grow by **£69.3m/22.6%** p.a. by 2024/25, driven by:-
 - Increases to our main police grant funding of **£12.2m/7.5%** in 20/21, rising to **£43.6m/26.8%** by 24/25;

- Introduction of new ring-fenced grant funding of **£3.8m** in 2020/21 to be paid in arrears following delivery of the Government's officer uplift target, which we have assumed will be consolidated into main grant upon delivery of the uplift target, to be replaced by a new ring-fenced grant in each of the next two years as further uplift targets are delivered;
- Council Tax funding will grow, driven by annual increases to our tax base of 1.0% in 20/21 and thereafter at 1.5% p.a., as well as increases to the precept of £10/4.59% in 20/21, and thereafter at 1.99% p.a. – an **increase in this funding of £25.7m/20.7%** p.a. by 24/25;
- Our **budget requirement is forecast to increase by £71.5m/23.2%** p.a. by 24/25, driven by factors such as:-
 - Inflationary adjustments to **officer and staff pay** of 3% p.a. – an increase in cost of **+£6.2m** in 20/21 rising to **+£37.5m** p.a. by 24/25;
 - Increases to our pensions costs to provide for current and anticipated future deficits in our staff and officer pension schemes, as well as inflationary increases for injury pensions – an increase in cost of **+£1.9m** in 20/21, increasing to **+£4.5m** by 24/25;
 - Inflationary increases to **non-pay costs** of 2.5% in 20/21 (3.5% for utilities/fuel costs, and 3.9% for NNDR), reducing to 2.0% (3.0% for utilities/fuel, and 3.9% for NNDR) thereafter - an increase in cost of **+£1.1m** in 20/21 rising to **+£5.1m** p.a. by 24/25;
 - Increases in our **cost of capital** investments, recognising both growth in direct revenue funding of capital spend as well as increased costs associated with future planned borrowing – an increase of **+£0.8m** in 20/21 rising to **+£1.3m** p.a. by 24/25;
 - **Investment and growth** across the Constabulary, predominantly focussed on realising the planned uplift in officer numbers as detailed above. Our total planned investments are forecast to cost **+£22.5m** in 20/21 rising to **+£38.3m** p.a. by 24/25;
 - Realisation of new revenue planned savings of **-£7.1m** p.a. (the majority of which [£6.7m] are achieved in our 20/21 budget), and further targeted savings of **-£2.0m** p.a. from 22/23.

The forecast position is not however without its challenges. Over five years our projections suggest that increases in our costs will outstrip our funding growth, requiring us to identify and realise further savings from 23/24 onwards. In total, we forecast at this stage that new savings of £4m will be required by 2024/25.

The improved settlement from Government comes with heightened expectations of the police service that it is able to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to transform itself. The realisation of an uplift in officer numbers that exceed our national targets is a key focus of our activity, but it is not the end of our plans. Other initiatives include:-

- New investment in the capacity of our investigations directorate, where we plan to invest a further **75 police staff investigators**, thereby liberating officers in our front line operational teams to be more proactive, intervening at the earliest point, to be more productive and to make even more of an impact in our communities;
- Extending the life of our **Operation Remedy** work focussed on proactively tackling drug crime, knife crime and burglary into 2020/21 – this will be supported by specific operational funding of £5.1m in 20/21;
- Realising revenue **planned savings of £7.1m** and identifying further opportunities for savings, which include continued delivery of procurement savings in support of national targets for policing;
- Funding a **permanent project delivery capacity** (removing the reliance on reserves to fund this) within the Constabulary, providing the capacity to support continued change throughout the MTFP.

Our continued transformation also requires capital investment. Investments in our **digital transformation**, as well as across our estates and fleet, require funding to implement. Capital funding is increasingly under pressure to provide for our ambition, at the same time as maintaining and replacing our existing asset base. These plans therefore make forward provision for uplift to capital funding, both in terms of direct revenue contributions and in the form of planned borrowing. Our plans present a residual capital funding shortfall of £7.8m at this stage of development. Identifying options to close this gap will remain an ongoing priority of our financial management and planning activities.

Our useable **reserve levels** stood at £38.7m at the end of March 2019, representing an increase of £2.7m/7.5% over the preceding 12 months. As we ring fence funds in support of our capital plans we expect these reserves to increase in the short-term, and then to reduce significantly over the medium term. By the end of March 2025 we forecast useable reserves will stand at £17.3m, representing the recurring prudent level beyond which we are unlikely to drop much further.

Introduction

The context within which this MTFP has been prepared is one of renewed optimism for the financial outlook of policing. The additional funds, which are forecast within this plan, are being made at a time when we face increasingly complex challenges to keep communities, vulnerable victims and individuals safe, and tackle criminality, the impact of globalisation and extremism.

The opportunity to therefore support additional investment into policing, both in fulfilment of the Government's ambition to uplift officer numbers, and in support of our more local priorities, is a very welcome development after the **last 10 years of austerity during which time we have realised £83m/27.9% in savings**.

2020/21 will be a year of significant change within Avon & Somerset. We will:-

- Exceed the Government's uplift target of an extra 137 police officers by March 2021, by committing to **grow by 165 officers** over that time frame;
- Build upon the foundation of **Operation Remedy**, continuing to realise performance improvements and improved outcomes in relation to drug, burglary and knife related crime and offences;
- Invest the additional funds provided by a £10 (4.59%) increase in the council tax by permanently funding the **15 extra PCSO's** working with schools, and introducing **75 police staff investigators** to release capacity in frontline operations;
- Continue to embed our **Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA)** programme in conjunction with our partners at the University of the West of England and introduce other entry routes into policing;
- Continue to **enhance our business intelligence and insights**, utilising our investment in our data science and analytics capabilities to enhance our insight into demand;
- Continue to strengthen and grow our **citizen in policing** offer, providing volunteering opportunities for the public;
- Develop opportunities presented by **Robotic Process Automation (RPA)**, unlocking the potential this creates to release capacity throughout the organisation and improve working lives for officers and staff;
- Deliver a wide range of **new digital capabilities** (e.g. e-recruitment, office 365) to support effective and efficient ways of working;
- Deliver a number of **estates projects** to provide modern, efficient and flexible buildings, including:-
 - Refurbishment of our Kenneth Steel House building in Bristol;
 - Completion of our new response base in Shepton Mallet;
 - Develop and commence plans for new police buildings in Yeovil, Bath, Wells and South Bristol.
- Continue our **investment in enhancing our leadership capabilities**, improving staff health and **wellbeing**, and furthering our ambition to increase the **diversity** of our workforce.

It is in this national and local context that this MTFP has been prepared.

Revenue Funding

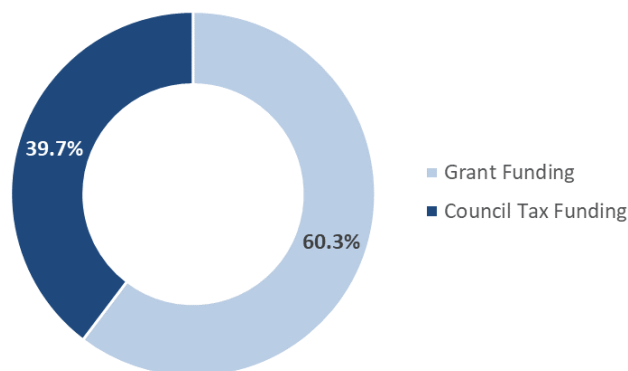
The PCC receives two main sources of funding:-

- Government grant funding; and
- Council tax funding.

Over the medium term we expect our total funding to see an **increase of £69.3m/22.6% by the 2024/25** financial year.

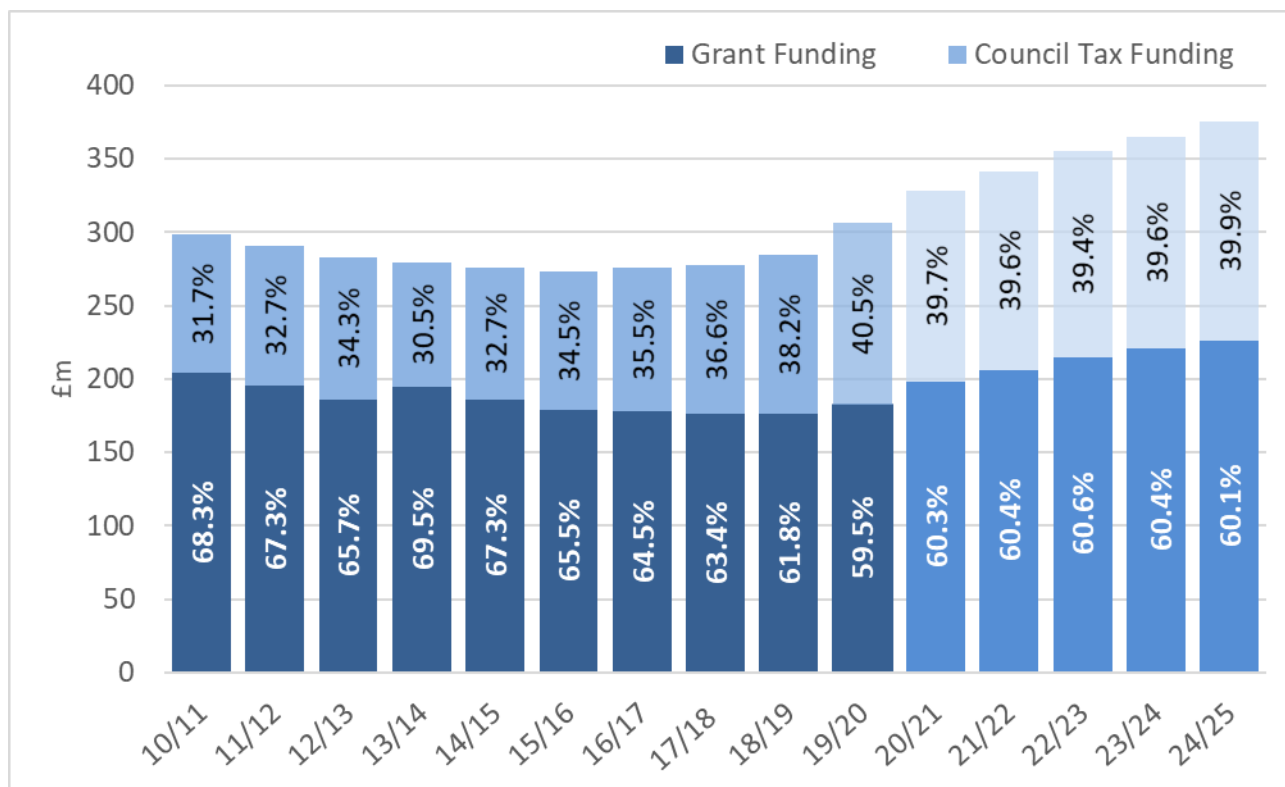
The profile of our funding between grant and council tax is forecast to remain relatively static over the course of the next 5 years.

Figure 1: 20/21 Profile of funding



	Actual	Forecast				
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Grant funding	182,093	198,148	206,523	215,071	220,436	225,739
Council tax funding	124,181	130,303	135,147	139,886	144,792	149,871
TOTAL funding	306,274	328,451	341,669	354,957	365,228	375,610

Figure 2: Actual and forecast profile of total funding



Grant Funding

The forecasts for our future grant funding focus on these areas:-

- Main grant funding;
- Officer uplift grant funding;
- Legacy council tax grant funding;
- Victims grant funding; and
- Pensions Grant.

There are other sources of grant funding (e.g. Counter Terrorism grant funding) but these are all passed straight through to the Chief Constable to support specific activity within the Constabulary.

	Actual	Forecast				
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Main grant funding	162,598	174,768	183,540	192,043	200,898	206,202
Officer uplift grant funding	-	3,843	3,445	3,491	-	-
Legacy council tax funding	14,709	14,709	14,709	14,709	14,709	14,709
Victims grant funding	1,958	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001
Pensions grant	2,828	2,828	2,828	2,828	2,828	2,828
TOTAL grant funding	182,093	198,148	206,523	215,071	220,436	225,739

- **Main grant funding** – The funding settlement announcements confirmed that this will increase in 20/21 by £12.1m/7.5%, and our assumptions thereafter forecast an increase of £43.6m/26.8% by 2024/25. The Government has indicated through briefings that the 2020/21 uplift is intended to support forces in making the relevant infrastructure improvements needed to recruit our share of the total uplift of the targeted 20,000 extra officers. Given this steer, we have assumed that increases in funding after 2020/21 are as a result of:-
 - Inflationary adjustments – We have assumed an annual increase to grant funding of 2.5%, reflecting the ongoing need for inflationary increases in this funding to keep pace as much as possible with increases to officer and staff pay. Our assumptions on pay (covered elsewhere) are an inflationary uplift of 3% p.a. and therefore this assumption brings about a small difference between increases to funding and increases to cost;
 - Consolidation of the Uplift grant – We have assumed that, as we achieve annual targets given to us by the Home Office for delivering our share of the national uplift, the ring-fenced in year grant will be consolidated into main grant funding. In so doing we have assumed that this will be incrementally increased to recognise both pay progression for new officer joiners, and pay inflation;
- **Officer uplift grant funding** – The funding settlement confirmed that it is the Government's intention to ring-fence funds for delivery of the uplift in officer numbers, and to pay this to forces quarterly in arrears as delivery of the officers and necessary infrastructure is evidenced. The initial amount ring-fenced for delivery of the national target of an extra 137 officers by 31st March 2021 is £3.843m. As outlined above we have assumed that this is consolidated into main grant funding in 2021/22, and will be replaced by a new amount reflective of the extra 116 officers we expect to have to uplift by in that year (taking our cumulative part of the national target to +253 officers).

Once this has been achieved we are likewise assuming that this will be consolidated into main grant, and replaced by a final uplift grant linked to the delivery of the remaining 115 extra officers (cumulative +368) that we will need to have achieved by March 2023. Once we have fully achieved this uplift we expect all of this grant to be consolidated into main grant funding.

Legacy council tax grant funding – This grant funding is analysed separately from the main grant funding, and is the combination of:-

- funding that is paid in recognition of historic council tax freezes (therefore only payable to those PCC's who froze council tax in relevant years); and
- funding which reflects the abolition of council tax benefit and the replacement of this with local council tax discount schemes (payable to all PCCs to replace funds previously paid through as council tax income).

The confirmed 2020/21 value of this funding is £14.7m, reflecting a continued freeze of this funding at historic levels. We have assumed this continues to remain frozen for the duration of the MTFP.

Victims grant funding – This grant is awarded to PCCs annually from the Ministry of Justice to support the commissioning of victims services, including a pass through of funds to the Chief Constable to support the Lighthouse Safeguarding Unit, with the remainder retained by the PCC to support the commissioning of wider victims' services. This funding had remained substantially frozen since it was introduced 2015/16. We have received notification for 20/21 of a small uplift of £43k but continued to assume no further increases across the MTFP period.

Police Pensions Grant (£2.8m) - this was introduced in 19/20 to help forces manage the large increase in employer contributions for police pensions resulting from the 2018 valuation exercise. The continuation of this grant funding was confirmed in the 2020/21 settlement, and is now **forecast to continue for the duration of the MTFP** as a separate grant frozen at 19/20 values.

Council Tax Funding

The value of council tax income received in any one year is determined by three key factors:-

- The value of the **precept** set by the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- The **tax base** (no. and profile of properties) from which council tax will be collected;
- Effectiveness of collection in previous year generating **surplus or deficit on the collection fund**.

	Actual	Forecast				
	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Precept (£p)	£217.81p	£227.81p	£232.34p	£236.97p	£241.68p	£246.69p
Tax base (No.)	565,063	570,951	579,515	588,208	597,031	605,987
Precept Income (£'000)	123,076	130,068	134,647	139,386	144,292	149,371
Surplus/(Deficit) (£'000)	1,104	235	500	500	500	500
Total Council Tax (£'000)	124,181	130,303	135,147	139,886	144,792	149,871

As a result of the assumptions, we are making across these three factors we forecast that our **council tax funding will increase by £25.7m/20.7% over the next five years.**

Precept – The value of the precept is defined by the rate applicable to an average Band D property. Currently Avon & Somerset have the median average Band D precept value of all PCCs across England and Wales - £217.81.

In 19/20, the PCC approved average annual increases to the precept of £24 per household. This decision was reached in light of all the considerations outlined below, and reflected the PCC's continued desire to protect Neighbourhood Policing, and provide the Chief Constable with the maximum possible funds to help deliver the police and crime plan.

In considering the level of precept to set for 2020/21 the PCC has made consideration of:-

- The views of the public, as expressed to her through a range of ongoing public engagement activity, which continues to show a majority in favour of increases to the precept in support of policing;
- The views of the Chief Constable, who has expressed his opinion in writing to the PCC;
- The views of the Police and Crime Panel, who have a power of veto over the precept proposal; and
- The Governments council tax referendum principles, which establish the level above which a local referendum must be held in order to approve a proposed increase to the value of the precept.

The funding settlement announcements made by the Government confirmed the referendum principles for consideration when setting the precept in 2020/21.

“We propose to empower PCCs to increase their Band D precept by up to £10 in 2020/21 without the need to call for a local referendum, the equivalent of less than twenty pence per week. If all PCCs decide to maximise their flexibility, this would result in up to an additional £248 million of funding for local policing next year. It is for locally accountable PCCs to take decisions on local precept and explain to their electorate how this additional investment will help deliver a better police service.”¹

¹ <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2020-01-22/HCWS51/>

After due consideration this plan has been drafted on basis that **the PCC will make full use of the flexibility afforded to her by the Government, with an increase of £10 to the average Band D policing precept in 2020/21**. Thereafter we have reverted to annual increases of 1.99%:-

	Actual	Forecast				
	19/20 £p	20/21 £p	21/22 £p	22/23 £p	23/24 £p	24/25 £p
Av. Band D Precept	£217.81	£227.81p	£232.34p	£236.97p	£241.68p	£246.69p
Annual Increase %		+4.59%	+1.99%	+1.99%	+1.99%	+1.99%
Annual Increase £p		+£10.00	+£4.53	+£4.62	+£4.72	+£4.81

Tax base – This is the number of properties against which tax can be collected, expressed as a weighted average at Band D, and adjusted for a collection rate. In our area we have eight billing authorities and we have to collate this information from them all. There are a number of factors which can affect the growth of this figure, with volume of new house building being the single biggest factor.

We have seen strong growth in our local tax base over recent years. In 2019/20 our tax base stood at 565,063, after growth of 1.63% compared to the previous year. Whilst this trend continues in some parts of our area, we note that in two billing authority areas there is a reduction in tax base compared to last year – recognising the challenges and pressures all billing authorities are under when trying to accurately forecast. The confirmed tax base for 2020/21 is an increase of just over 1.0%:-

	19/20 No.	20/21 No.	Change No.	Change %
Bath & North East Somerset	65,688	66,880	+1,192	+1.8%
Bristol	126,999	128,566	+1,567	+1.2%
North Somerset	79,372	79,185	-187	-0.2%
South Gloucestershire	94,611	96,745	+2,134	+2.3%
Unitary (“Avon”) authorities	366,669	371,376	+4,706	+1.3%
Mendip DC	40,496	40,979	+483	+1.2%
Sedgemoor DC	41,009	41,436	+427	+1.0%
South Somerset DC	60,266	60,711	+445	+0.7%
West Somerset & Taunton	56,623	56,450	-173	-0.3%
District (“Somerset”) authorities	198,394	199,575	+1,181	+0.6%
TOTAL Tax Base	565,063	570,951	+5,887	+1.0%

As the above table shows, we are forecasting to see some variation in growth across our billing authorities. The forecasted position estimates a 2.3% increase in South Gloucestershire, compared with a 0.3% decrease in West Somerset & Taunton. The estimated growth in 2020/21 is lower than experienced last year, but having reviewed the assumptions individual councils are making for future growth in the tax base we remain confident in retaining the assumption of 1.5% p.a. increases for the remainder of the MTFP period.

Collection fund surplus or deficit – This represents our share of any surplus or deficit on the collection fund as calculated by our eight collecting authorities. Historically, all of our local collecting authorities have generated a sizeable surplus.

However, the indication from our billing authorities is that maintaining this level of surplus is proving to be a challenge. The final collection fund surpluses or deficits will not be finally confirmed until February 2020 however, current forecasts from our authorities demonstrates a range from a deficit of £249k to a surplus of £201k. Overall, we expect the final **2020/21 position to be a small surplus of £235k.**

Predicting with any accuracy the collection fund surplus or deficit figure has proven to be particularly difficult. There are no particular trends, with wide ranging fluctuations from one year to the next. For the purposes of planning beyond 2020/21 we are assuming **that our share will average out at £0.5m p.a. over the medium term**, reflecting a lower than average position seen over the past decade.

The Revenue budget requirement

The budget requirement accounts for how the PCC will commit expenditure that enables the provision of policing and community safety across Avon & Somerset.

Budget Requirement (before savings)

	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
PCC's Office budget requirement	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719
PCC's Commissioning budget requirement	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488
Chief Constables budget requirement	330,149	344,587	358,911	371,632	383,465
TOTAL budget requirement	335,165	349,649	364,020	376,789	388,672

PCC's Office budget requirement

This budget reflects the costs of the PCC and her immediate office that enables and supports the fulfilment of the full range of duties of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
20/21 Base budget	1,417	1,417	1,417	1,417	1,417
Inflation	28	74	121	170	219
Savings	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5
Growth	108	108	108	108	108
Adjustment (<i>trf of post from OPCC to Force</i>)	-19	-19	-19	-19	-19
OPCC Budget Requirement	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719

20/21 Base Budget – This budget supports the PCC, and a team of 20.4 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) staff who support the PCC in the range of activities undertaken in the fulfilment of their statutory duties. The £108k growth covers some regrading of senior roles and 2 additional staff, namely a new commissioning and policy officer focused on tackling violent crime with partners and a commissioning support officer.

Pay and inflationary adjustments – Applying the same assumptions to the OPCC budgets as those used for the Chief Constables budgets (see below for more detail) identifies an inflationary pressure over the MTFP period. This predominantly relates to increased costs for both pay and non-pay items.

PCC's commissioning budget requirement

This budget supports the commissioning of services from external organisations.

	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
19/20 Base budget	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445
Increase in Ministry of Justice funding	43	43	43	43	43
Annual budget requirement	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488

We have assumed no change in the Commissioning budgets after the minimal 20/21 uplift, which is funded by the confirmed increase in Ministry of Justice funding for commissioning of victims services.

This budget is used by the PCC to commission core services across the following areas:-

	2020/21 £'000
Drug and alcohol referral services	553
Victims services (inc SARC, but excl those within Constabulary)	1,738
Appropriate adult services	52
Mental health triage service in A&S call centre	159
Restorative justice services	179
Police & Crime Grants (community safety & YOT)	787
Police and crime grants for community safety and other 3 rd party work	20
TOTAL	3,488

The commissioning budget provisions for victims' services commissioned from organisations other than the Constabulary. The funding provided to the Chief Constable for the provision of the Lighthouse victims services (£906k - 2020/21), is accounted for within the Chief Constables budget requirement set out below.

Chief Constable's budget requirement

This budget reflects the majority of the overall budget requirement, providing funds to support the Chief Constable and the Constabulary in the provision of policing to the communities of Avon & Somerset.

	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Original 20/21 Base budget	301,420	301,420	301,420	301,420	301,420
In-Year Adjustments to budget	+1,833	+1,833	+1,833	+1,833	+1,833
Restated 19/20 Base budget	303,253	303,253	303,253	303,253	303,253
Pay & staffing adjustments	+2,825	+10,047	+16,302	+26,659	+35,738
Non-pay inflationary adjustments	+804	+1,807	+2,787	+3,791	+4,819
Cost of capital adjustments	+765	+1,140	+1,363	+1,358	+1,324
Growth and commitments	+22,502	+27,915	+34,424	+36,506	+38,372
Cumulative increase in costs	+26,896	+41,334	+55,658	+68,379	+80,212
Budget requirement (before savings)	330,149	344,587	358,911	371,632	383,465

This base budget makes provision to increase our establishment, which at end of March 2021 will be:-

Budgeted Establishment	Core Funded FTE	External Funding FTE	Collaboration FTE	TOTAL FTE
Police Officers	2,694	86	132	2,912
Police Community Support Officers	344	6	-	350
Police Staff	2,087	114	378	2,579
TOTAL Budgeted establishment	5,125	206	510	5,841

Pay & staffing adjustments – Pay and employee related costs are the single biggest area of spend for the Constabulary, representing nearly 80% of our total costs. It should therefore be expected that this is where we forecast the biggest change to our costs over the MTFP period.

- **Pay Awards** – Our budget projections must make provision for annual increases to pay, in line with anticipated future pay awards. The 2019 pay award was agreed at 2.5% reflecting the ongoing relaxation of the restrictions placed on pay increases for police officers and staff. In light of this the estimated pay award for both officers and staff has been changed to 3.0% across each year of the MTFP. Our forecasts have been updated to reflect this:-

Annual pay uplift (w/e 1st September)	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Annual % uplift	+3.0%	+3.0%	+3.0%	+3.0%	+3.0%
Officers cumulative pay uplift	+4,425	+8,792	+13,383	+18,112	+22,983
Staff cumulative pay uplift	+1,764	+5,177	+8,207	+11,328	+14,542
TOTAL cumulative pay uplift	+6,189	+13,969	+21,590	+29,440	+37,525

The result of these assumptions is that our costs will increase by £37.5m p.a. by 2024/25 – making this the single biggest increase in our costs recognised in this MTFP.

- **Change to officer and staff unit cost** – We have reviewed the current profile of officers and staff against the budgeted pay cost (adjusting for average where there are vacancies), and in so doing we recognise that in many areas the actual unit cost per officer/staff is less than in the budget. This is the consequence of the turnover of officers and staff, and reflects the profile of individuals within the pay scales. This issue is especially relevant in Patrol where student officers at the bottom of the pay scales are replacing longer serving officers towards the top end of their pay scales. The result of this analysis is that we are able to reduce our unit cost in most areas of our pay, resulting in a reduction to our pay budgets in 20/21 of £5.2m p.a. We anticipate that this situation will continue across the MTFP, with a further £2m reduction to pay budgets by 2022/23, after which we expect the position to begin to reverse as the recruitment of officers slows and we move into a period of maintaining our officer establishment at its new increased level.
- **Police Officer Pension costs** – Our base budget was increased in 2019/20 to reflect the uplift in costs resulting from the Police Officer pension actuarial valuation undertaken. We expect a further valuation to occur before the end of the MTFP, and in light of ongoing pressures relating to pensions we are forecasting an increase in cost of £1m p.a. with effect from the 2023/24 financial year;
- **Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) costs** – Our contributions to the pension scheme for police staff were the subject of an actuarial valuation in the 19/20 financial year. The result was a 3.1% (13.2% - 16.3%) increase in our employer contributions, offset by a slight reduction in our in lump sum deficit recovery funding. These changes resulted in a £1.4.m increase in costs for 20/21 rising to £2.2m over the course of the 5 years as we include provision for further uplifts in expectation that the further valuation planned in 2022 will again result in an increase to our costs;
- **Other Pensions costs** – We have made provision for continued incremental growth in the number of officers retiring with an injury on duty award, as well as inflationary provisions for the costs of those pensioners already in receipt of such awards. These costs are forecast to add £1.2m over the course of the MTFP period;

- **Overtime adjustments** – An annual adjustment is made to the budget to reflect the number of bank holidays that fall within any one particular financial year. Owing to the date on which Easter falls each year as well as whether Christmas falls on a weekend, this can vary from one year to the next (e.g. 19/20 has 8 bank holidays, whereas 2021/22 has 11 bank holidays);
- **Housing allowance and comp grant adjustments** – Adjustment is made to our budget to reflect the forecast reduction in officers who continue to receive housing allowance and comp grant. We expect to reduce budgets by nearly £0.6m over the course of the MTFP period in recognition of this.

Non-pay inflationary adjustments – During a period of budgetary restraint we restricted the inflationary uplift made to non-pay budgets. We were able to manage this through a combination of low inflation and strong financial and budgetary control throughout the organisation. However, this is not sustainable in the long-term, particularly as wider economic factors have the potential to create pressures here.

In light of this, we have adjusted our assumptions for the future:-

- **General Non-Pay** – we have assumed an annual uplift in our non-pay costs of 2.5% p.a. in 2020/21, reducing to 2.0% p.a. in each year thereafter. These assumptions add £3.5m p.a. onto our current budgets by 2024/25;
- **Utilities and Fuel** – we have assumed an annual uplift in our utilities and fuel costs of 3.5% p.a. in 2020/21, reducing to 3.0% p.a. in each year thereafter. These assumptions add £1.5m p.a. onto our current budgets by 2024/25;

We have also made assumptions here about our **interest and investment income**, which we forecast to increase by £0.25m in 2020/21 in line with current performance. We expect to maintain this position across the entirety of the MTFP period.

Cost of capital adjustments – It is necessary for us to recognise increases to our revenue funding for capital investment over the life of the MTFP. Our ability to continue to afford future capital investment is dependent on us having sufficient capital funds available. Since 2010 we have seen substantial reductions in the value of our capital grant funding from the Home Office, with total capital grant standing at just over £1.0m in 2019/20 after nearly 80% reductions on the capital grant received a decade earlier. The funding settlement announced a further 75% reduction to this in 2020/21, with a confirmed grant to us of just £0.27m.

To date we have been able to minimise the impact of this reduction on our capital investment through the generation of capital receipts and the use of reserves. However, this is not a sustainable basis on which to support future capital replacement and investment. This means that our forward plans make provision for further increases to our revenue cost of capital.

There are two key assumptions that affect the amount by which this part of our budget needs to change:-

- **Borrowing** - The level and use of borrowing we undertake to support capital investment. Over the MTFP we forecast we will need to borrow a further £12.3m, with £6.3m borrowed in 19/20, £5.0m expected to be taken during 20/21, a further £1m by the end of the 21/22 financial year. The timing of this reflects current assumptions around our capital programme, and will be subject to ongoing review and reflection.

The cost of borrowing has an impact on our revenue budget in two ways:-

- Interest Payable – At present we are paying an average interest rate of 4.1% on c. £39.8m worth of borrowings. We know that current borrowing rates (dependent on term of the borrowing) are better than this average rate, and therefore we are assuming any new

borrowing will attract interest at a rate of 3.0%. We are also assuming that we will look to take new borrowing close to the end of the financial year, thereby only requiring us to provision for the cost of this fully in the following financial year. These assumptions, coupled with the ongoing payment of existing borrowing, mean we will **increase our interest payable costs by £162k p.a. by 2024/25.**

- **Minimum Revenue Provision** – It is necessary for us to make provision for the repayment of our borrowing against our revenue budget. Our method of calculating the value of the provision is determined by the life of the asset that is being funded by the borrowing. This means we try and use our borrowing over longer-life assets (e.g. buildings) where possible, as the annual cost is minimised. Our assumption for the new borrowing is that the majority of this will be used over longer-life assets, **increasing our MRP budget by £742k p.a. by 2024/25.**
- **Direct revenue funding of capital investment** – We recognise the challenges around our medium term capital affordability (see section below), and the reductions to our home office capital grant funding confirmed in the settlement announcements. Our plan makes provision to increase our revenue funding for capital, resulting in a recurring annual contribution of £7m in each year of the MTFP. This provides a more sustainable basis on which to make our forward capital plans.

Growth and Commitment adjustments – In setting our budget it is necessary to recognise any growth or unavoidable commitments and capture the impact of these on our budgets.

- **New growth and investments** – Over the course of the MTFP we have recognised £34.7m in new growth and investments:-

	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Futures Programme - officer uplift	8,221	13,449	19,513	20,716	21,879
Schools PCSO's – precept funding	510	525	541	557	574
Investigative capacity growth – precept funding	2,725	2,807	2,891	2,978	3,067
Operation remedy	1,667	1,667	1,667	1,667	1,667
Approved local business case growth	3,478	3,508	3,268	3,268	3,268
Funding change delivery capacity	1,279	1,279	1,279	1,279	1,279
Other budgetary pressures identified	3,003	3,055	3,039	3,021	2,977
TOTAL Growth and Investments	20,883	26,291	32,198	33,486	34,711

- **Futures Programme** – this growth relates to all forecast costs associated with the uplift in officer numbers. This includes the full cost of the officer uplift (403 FTE), incorporating both the anticipated increase required of us as part of the governments uplift target (368 FTE), plus the additional officers (35 FTE) added to this as part of our local commitment. In addition it provisions for identified costs to both deliver and sustain the increase in officer numbers;
- **Schools PCSO's** – this growth, funded by the £10 increase in precept, enables us to permanently fund the 15 PCSO's that were introduced with the 2019/20 serious violence surge funding. These dedicated PCSOs have been able to build dedicated links with schools, providing a service that supports schools particularly in enabling early signposting to the right support networks to prevent criminalisation and exploitation of young people;
- **Investigative capacity** – this growth, funded by the £10 increase in precept, builds upon existing plans (see below) to create more capacity in our investigative directorate. The growth funds an

additional 75 police staff investigator posts. This increase in our investigative capacity is planned to liberate front line operational teams and specialist investigative teams to be more proactive, intervening at the earliest point and to be more productive and to make even more of an impact in our communities;

- Operation Remedy – this represents the growth required to fund the rank and experienced profile of officers within our Operational Remedy posts. These 100 officer posts were created from the precept increase in 2019/20. At the time, these posts were funded at a PC entry grade level. However, as the posts have been filled we have seen a more experienced profile of officers towards the top of their pay scales fill these posts. This growth therefore establishes a budget which reflects this profile, as well as continuing to provide a £0.3m operational fund to support specific costs of operations;
- Approved business case growth – this covers items already approved through the Constabulary and (where required) PCC Boards. Areas of growth include:-
 - Police Staff Investigators (+£671k) – in light of pressures within our investigations department, and in acknowledgement of the lead time for filling detective vacancies, Chief Officers agreed to fund an initial uplift of 20 police staff investigators during 2019. These posts have been recruited to, and are being filled. They provide a base on which we intend to grow further with the support of the additional precept funding (see above);
 - Custody (+£367k) – in recognition of some of the acute pressures in the Constabulary, Chief Officers approved growth in detention officers and supported the creation of a voluntary attendance team embedded within custody;
 - Tactical Support Team (+£298k) – following review of this recently returned function, Chief Officers agreed to growth to ensure the sustainability of the specialist capabilities provided by this team;
 - Data Science and Innovation Centre (+£260k) – building on the transformation funded programme around our analytics capability, Chief Officers approved investment in our capabilities here recognising the opportunity this presents;
 - Outreach workers (+£241k) – in support of our diversity and inclusion ambitions, and in furtherance of the uplift in officer numbers, approval was given for the introduction of 7 outreach workers to develop over a two year programme our attraction and recruitment reach into those communities we have historically been under-represented in;
 - Citizens in Policing (+£238k) – supporting the ambitions to increase our numbers of specials and volunteers, approval was given for growth in our citizens in policing capability – building on the successes seen in other forces;
 - Tasers (+£238k) – after careful consideration and consultation, approval was given for an uplift in the number of Taser carrying officers across Avon and Somerset. This growth supports the ongoing training and equipment costs associated with this uplift;

In addition there are a number of smaller initiatives included here, such as investment in our e-recruitment capabilities, our skills management systems, enhancing our capacity in key functions such as vetting and fleet services.

- Funding change delivery capacity – The Constabulary has invested in its change delivery function over the past 10 years, recognising the need for a capacity to support its continued transformation and achievement of savings. Until now this has been funded through core central team, supplemented by additional resources funded from reserves. We recognise that

this is no longer a sustainable model, and accordingly this plan provisions for all of these resources to be permanently funded from within recurring core budget;

- Other budgetary pressures identified – through our budget setting process, we review all areas of the budget in conjunction with budget holders. Through this, we have identified a number of pressures that this plan seeks to address. These include:-
 - Estates – Repairs and Maintenance (+£798k) – during the past 10 years we have incrementally reduced our repairs and maintenance budgets as a means of achieving the savings required of us to balance our revenue budget. This has led to a situation where our repairs programme has become almost exclusively reactive in focus, and is increasingly becoming consumed by larger repair work (e.g. roof leaks). Having reviewed this position in light of our recent condition surveys, we have set aside funds to enable our plans to become more proactive in focus, thereby redressing the balance between planned and reactive and ensuring we have an estate which is fit for purpose;
 - Overtime (+£398k) our plans incorporate uplift to overtime budgets to reflect increased bank holiday working in our neighbourhood teams, as well as anticipated pressures resulting from the experience of officers during a period of uplift;
 - Income (+£282k) our ability to generate income through the provision of training to other forces is forecast to significantly reduce as we focus the capacity of our training school onto our own local needs;
 - Rents, Landlord Service Charges and Hire of Accommodation (+£255k) – budget plans here include for revenue costs associated with new rented accommodation, including our Taunton Police Station (co-location with West Somerset and Taunton Council) and our new leasehold Shepton Mallet response base;
 - Equipment (+£201k) – increases in budget to support increased licences costs in particular associated with CCTV and surveillance capabilities.
- **Uplifts to regional and national collaborations** – Our plan provisions for ongoing increases in costs of our regional collaborations (as these collective budgets are increased for inflation in the same way as our own plans), as well as for the costs of national collaborations:-
 - National Management Centre – this is part of the national enabling programme across policing, and will provide 24/7 monitoring of the police services IT networks. The cost of this service (£254k) is expected to be charged from the 2020/21 financial year;
 - Police Commercial Organisation and Transforming Forensics Programme – the cost of these newly created bodies are expected to be funded centrally for the next three years, after which we have assumed that individual forces will be expected to fund them under a subscription model. The cost of this (£300k) has been built in with effect from the 2023/24 financial year;
- **Unavoidable commitments** – During 2019 we have approved the creation of a centre of excellence for Robotic Process Automation (RPA) within our IT Directorate. This has been approved as a three year pilot to develop our capabilities and prove the value of this area of development. We recognise the huge potential offered by this, and therefore this plan builds in the necessary funds to support this initial programme.

Revenue savings requirement and plans

Savings requirement

After having made all of the assumptions around both funding and pay outlined above, we can establish the following overall position:-

	Forecast				
	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Total Funding Forecast	328,451	341,669	354,957	365,228	375,610
<i>Less; PCC's Office budget</i>	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719
<i>Less; PCC's Commissioning budget</i>	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488
Funding left to support Chief Constable	323,435	336,607	349,847	360,070	370,403
<i>Less; Chief Constable budget requirement</i>	330,149	344,587	358,911	371,632	383,465
Standstill Deficit	6,714	7,980	9,062	11,562	13,062

Against this the Constabulary has identified initial savings that enable it to balance the budget in 2020/21. With the addition of a further savings target of £1m in 2021/22 rising to £2m by 2022/23, it is also able to balance the budget for the first three years of the plan:

	Forecast				
	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
Standstill Deficit	6,714	7,980	9,062	11,562	13,062
Savings realised through budget build	(5,438)	(5,838)	(5,838)	(5,838)	(5,838)
Enabling Services / Infrastructure	(797)	(797)	(797)	(797)	(797)
Intelligence & Tasking Review	(98)	(98)	(98)	(98)	(98)
Operational Services Savings	(138)	(138)	(138)	(138)	(138)
NPAS reductions	(243)	(108)	(190)	(190)	(190)
New savings to be identified	-	(1,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
Revised Deficit	-	-	-	2,500	4,000

As the above table demonstrates those planned savings, supplemented by an additional £2m targeted savings, enable us to balance our revenue budget for the next three years. Thereafter there is a **deficit of c. £2.5m in 2023/24 rising to c. £4.0m in 2024/25** forecast.

Beyond our immediate savings plans we recognise that there will be further opportunities to improve efficiency and realise savings, providing potential for us to close this gap. These include:-

- Realising the efficiencies offered through our digital mobilisation work – quantifying the efficiency and productivity gains achieved through this;
- Introducing greater automation and digitalisation across some of our operational processes, building on the opportunities presented through upgrades to existing applications (e.g. NICHE) and

on those presented through national programmes and initiatives (e.g. National Enabling Programme);

- Ongoing procurement savings which may enable us to avoid some of the forecast uplift in costs through commercial or collaborative deals struck.

Some of the above will represent savings which we would want to deliver, whereas others reflect productivity gains that we would initially look to generate improvements in our performance. Our financial projections suggest we have time in which to focus our energy and efforts on delivering the outcomes the public expects of us, proving that better financial settlements can deliver better public outcomes. Thereafter, if our financial outlook requires it then we will be able to consider where best our savings are achieved in a way which limits the impact on those performance improvements we're targeting.

Delivering Transformation

Avon & Somerset is committed to continuous improvement. We recognise that we must continue to transform in order to ensure that we are able to provide the best possible service to the public at the best possible value. The principle of continuous improvement underpins all of our planning, with individuals departments required to produce annual delivery plan, which are consolidated into our overall Constabulary delivery plan through which we intend to realise our strategic objectives and the priorities of the Police and Crime plan.

We are delivering improvements in efficiency and effectiveness across the organisation, including:

- Transformative changes to ways of working building on the completion of the Mobilisation Project releasing productivity and performance improvements;
- Comprehensive reviews of end to end demand to understand the future shape of the Constabulary so that maximum gains from Police Officer uplift can be realised;
- The continued modernisation of the Constabulary estate on a site by site basis making use of a mixed economy of infrastructure solutions;
- Embedding a new Strategic Framework that provides cohesive structures to link organisational strategy to focussed operational delivery;
- Investing in our staff to ensure business improvement activity is managed in line with industry standards and best practice.

We recognise that we will continue to frame this activity as part of larger scale Constabulary Change Programmes. The scale of this work reflects the continued transformation ambition we have in Avon & Somerset and this requires a clear framework through which our change activity can be resourced and delivered.

In recognition of the ongoing scale of the portfolio a permanent budget has been built in to fund the Transformation Department. The new structure has been designed to support the current change programme although additional resource may still be required in support of specific projects. This will need to be considered and continually reviewed.

Capital Programme and Funding

Our Medium Term Financial Plan recognises the importance and complexity of capital planning, and how integral this is in the context of our wider financial planning. The section sets out the context and framework within which our capital plans have been prepared, and in so doing fulfils the requirements of a capital strategy as introduced in the revised CIPFA Prudential code.

Our assets are essential to the provision of an effective policing service. In order to sustain this service, and meet the objectives and ambitions set out in the Police and Crime Plan it is important that we set out how we intend to maintain and develop our assets, identifying investments we plan to make. These are required to both support the refresh of our existing assets and infrastructure, as well as to invest in new transformative initiatives which will help us to realise improvements in our operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Our capital plans are, by their nature, complex and require detailed planning and forecasting. This requires support and understanding of colleagues across the organisation. It also requires a large degree of wider environmental scanning in order to assess the impact of national projects and initiatives which will require our support to implement locally.

Our funding position is also complicated, relying on multiple sources of funding in order to be able to support planned expenditure. Forecasting our funding is therefore based on a large number of assumptions and inter-dependencies which are subject to ongoing change both in value and timing.

Developing our Capital Programme

Our assets are integral to the delivery of efficient policing services. Maintaining the optimum use of resources whilst securing best value in relation to both cost and quality are key considerations. This is done by following best practice in relation to procurement, sales and construction, taking external legal and professional advice where required.

Our assets fall into four broad categories:-

- Our buildings – all buildings are owned by the PCC, and the PCC's office retain responsibility for key decisions around the purchase and disposal of buildings, maintaining close oversight of our estate management and planning in order to fulfil this role. The day to day management of the estate is undertaken by the Constabulary's estates department, within our Finance and Business Services directorate;
- Our information and communication technology – all ICT assets are managed and maintained through our IT Directorate. Forward planning of these assets is informed by considerations of longevity and optimum replacement cycle. This enables effective planning of renewal and replacement activity to be considered alongside new transformative initiatives and projects, either local or national, that may see the type and nature of our assets continue to change;
- Our fleet – all vehicles are maintained through our transport services department within our Finance and Business Services directorate. All fleet assets are maintained and managed through our fleet management system, which provides information that enables effective optimisation of the usage of our fleet as well as planning around replacement activity;
- Our capital equipment – This will include equipment in use across the organisation, where the responsibility for its management and maintenance rests with the responsible department of the Constabulary.

Our capital programme is developed to consider all requirements for maintenance and investment across these categories of assets. The programme produced therefore is reflective of a mixture of:-

- Asset replacement and renewal – recognising the optimum operating life for our assets, and where necessary, ensuring our plans provision for the replacement of them;
- New initiatives and projects – recognising our new investments in order to realise the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan and meet the objectives of the Constabulary.

The programme is developed jointly between the PCC and the Constabulary, and is realised through wide stakeholder engagement. The finalised programme reflects a list of anticipated and recommended projects that enables high level planning across a medium term horizon. The programme, and the approval of it through the medium term financial plan, reflects approval for the next 12 months replacement and renewal activity, but recognises individual business cases are still required to progress new initiatives and projects.

These business cases, all of which will be approved in accordance with the PCC’s scheme of governance, will be delivered using a prescribed format, and will cover:-

- Clear definition of the objectives of the proposal;
- Baseline assessment of the “as is” position, and how this compares with user specifications and force standards;
- Consideration, assessment and appraisal of possible options – including alternative ways of procuring assets (e.g. leasing, partnership arrangements) where these are viable options;
- Financial appraisal of the options, to include identification of capital funding source and consideration of whole life costs and ongoing impact on revenue budgets;
- Risk appraisal, enabling decision makers to reach a decision informed by a clear understanding of the risk and allowing these to be clearly included on risk registers for management as appropriate;

The delivery of capital projects will be overseen either by the department responsible, or in the case of larger projects, through our change programme boards. In monitoring the delivery of our capital projects particular focus is placed on:-

- Delivery is on time and achievement of the intended outcome/s;
- The overall use of capital and revenue funding is as close as possible to original plans; and
- When the above factors are not achieved, variations are reported appropriately.

Progress against the capital programme, including considerations of capital financing, is reported quarterly to our Constabulary Management Board and the Police and Crime Board.

Upon completion of a capital project, consideration will be given to the use of a Post Implementation Review (PIR). This review will provide a check against the performance compared to the original proposal. It will focus on the outcomes achieved, the extent to which the benefits claimed are being realised, and the actual costs both revenue and capital. Through the use of these types of review we would look to capture learning that can inform our future projects and programmes for the better.

The table below summarises the current capital forecast and our forward 5 year capital plan:-

	Current	MTFP					TOTAL £'000
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000	
Capital Expenditure	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	20,518	7,369	93,431
Less; Capital Funding	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	12,675	7,369	85,589
Deficit	-	-	-	-	7,843	-	7,843

Capital Expenditure

Whilst we recognise that our plans will continue to be refined, particularly where they relate to national ICT projects where we await further detailed information, we have an emerging picture which identifies that the current year (19/20) of capital spend, plus the planned spend over the next five years (through until 24/25) totals £93.4m.

	Current	MTFP					TOTAL £'000
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000	
Asset replacement	6,933	10,749	6,493	9,375	9,727	6,969	50,245
Capital projects	8,091	9,138	8,209	6,556	10,791	400	43,186
TOTAL	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	20,518	7,369	93,431

Asset replacement – Our asset replacement plans total £50.2m, which accounts for 53.7% of our total capital plan spend. This includes provision for the ongoing maintenance, replacement and renewal of our existing assets:-

	Current Yr	MTFP					TOTAL £'000
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000	
ICT replacement	2,916	6,425	3,288	6,138	6,516	3,373	28,656
Estates replacement	941	1,244	400	400	400	400	3,785
Fleet replacement	2,886	2,672	2,497	2,569	2,543	2,928	16,094
Equipment replacement	190	408	308	268	268	268	1,710
TOTAL	6,933	10,749	6,493	9,375	9,727	6,969	50,245

ICT replacement – The plan assumes the following renewal and replacement activity:-

- End User Devices (£17.1m) – the number of end user devices has increased in recent years, and we would expect all devices to need at least one replacement during the life of this plan. This includes:-
 - replacement and new issue of both desktops and laptop devices - £8.1m;
 - replacement and new issue of mobile phones, headsets and tablets - £5.2m;
 - replacement and new issue of body worn video cameras - £3.0m.
- Infrastructure (£9.7m) – over the course of the plan we have made provision for replacement and enhancements to our IT infrastructure, including:-
 - Storage and back-up requirements - £1.6m;
 - Servers and networks - £4.4m;
 - Data centre consolidation - £1.3m;
 - Video conferencing capability - £0.3m.

In addition to which we also have an annual provision of £0.2m to support unscheduled spend requirements.

Estates replacement – our estates replacement plans include the following areas of activity:-

- HQ generator replacement (£0.6m) – During 2019/20 we have replaced our generator as it was at the end of its life. These are the remaining costs to complete the project which are all expected to be incurred in 2019/20;
- Building refurbishments (£1.5m) – specific improvements required to various buildings within the Estate to ensure they remain fit for purpose;
- Electrical, fire and central heating systems (£1.4m) – annual provision is set aside to support ongoing rolling renewal programme for electrical, fire safety and heating systems upgrades across our estate;
- Provision to incrementally introduce electric charging infrastructure across our estate (£0.3m), thereby enabling us to progress the introduction of electric vehicles where there is a sound reason for doing so;

In addition to which we also have an annual provision of £0.1m to support unscheduled spend requirements.

Fleet replacement – our fleet replacement plan currently reflects the activity required to both maintain our current fleet numbers and profile as well as supporting the anticipated uplift if officer numbers. Within this plan, we have provisioned for replacement across all vehicle types, including those used in patrol, those used by our tactical support team, those used in our neighbourhood teams and those more specialist vehicles used within our operational support teams. Across the life of the plan, the total expenditure equates to £16.1m. The total expenditure will remain dependent upon the ongoing review of our fleet to further rationalise where appropriate;

Equipment replacement – our plan for the replacement of our capital equipment falls into two distinct areas as follows:-

- Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) (£1.1m) – over the course of the plan to both maintain and replace our current ANPR asset estate;
- Provision (£0.5m) – annual provision of £0.6m is included in the plan to provide for the rolling replacement of a large number of smaller value assets which when purchased in aggregate are more suitable to be funded through capital than through our revenue equipment budgets.

Capital projects - Our planned capital projects total £43.2m, which accounts for 46.3% of our total capital plan spend. This includes provision for all of our planned capital investments, including those both in-scope and out of scope of our change programme arrangements:-

	Current Yr	MTFP					TOTAL £'000
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000	
Digital Projects	2,097	1,944	3,961	6,131	10,491	300	24,924
Estates Projects	5,994	7,094	4,148	325	200	0	17,761
Regional Projects	0	100	100	100	100	100	500
TOTAL	8,091	9,138	8,209	6,556	10,791	400	43,186

Digital Projects – Some continued refinement is required to these numbers, particularly in relation to those national projects, with this plan including provision for the following:-

- National Projects (£11.8m) – we have made provision for national projects which includes:-
 - The Emergency Services Network (ESN) programme the plan assumes £11.5m will be needed to implement this national airwave replacement programme. The timing and value of this project remains a subject of significant ambiguity at this point with the expectation of the final business case being available in February 2020;
 - The National ANPR System (NAS) project - £0.1m is set aside to support the ongoing upgrades of this new national capability for policing;
 - National Enabling Programme - £0.1 m is set aside to support capital costs associated with the introduction of the three areas of work covered by this programme; Identity Access Management, National Management Centre and Office 365 enablement;
 - Biometrics - £0.1m is set aside to support the introduction of digital fingerprinting utilising mobile devices for frontline police officers.
- Digital Mobilisation (£1.6m) – our provision for our digital mobilisation project will complete in 19/20 but there are some final costs :-
 - New laptops, mobile devices and associated infrastructure – £0.4m;
 - Delivery and development of our mobile platform capability – £0.2m;
 - New replacement desktops – £1.0m;
- Digital Evidence (£0.6m) – our provision for digital evidence relates to a CCTV project that will begin in 2020/21;
- ERP Replacement (£8.5m) – Building on our existing projects to deliver an e-recruitment tool and a skills management system, we expect to bring forward our plans for the expected replacement of our suite of HR, finance and procurement system/s within the next six months;
- Other Digital Project (£2.3m) – These include:-
 - A new case management system for our HR and Legal Services functions - £0.25m;
 - A new digital media analytics capability to support our intelligence operations - £0.3m;
 - Investment in our Voice and Data communications capability - £0.3m;
 - Further development of the capabilities available to frontline officers through their mobile devices - £0.5m;
- Provision for unscheduled spend (£0.2m p.a. totalling £1m over the life of the plan);

Estates Projects – our programme of estates projects incorporates plans across a number of different locations. These include:-

- Yeovil Police Station – the plan includes £5.8m investment to support this project to re-provision a new fit for purpose police station on our existing site;
- Kenneth Steele House (Feeder Road, Bristol) – the plan includes £4.3m to complete this in-flight project to improve our existing building, increasing its capacity thereby enabling wider consolidation of estate elsewhere;

- Neighbourhood bases – our plans include provision of 14 new neighbourhood base, some of which incorporating enquiry offices, at a cost of £5.4m. Of these two were completed in 19/20, five are expected to be substantially completed during 20/21 and the remaining seven expected to be completed within the 5 year plan;
- Shepton Mallet Police Station – provision made for new response hub and police station (£1.1m) expected to become operational during 2020;
- Public Protection Suites (£0.5m) – our plans include the provision of new public protection suites in the South East, South West and North East of our force area. The progression of these projects would bring our entire public protection estate up to a common standard;
- Vehicle workshop refurbishments (£0.2m) – improvements to increase the capacity of our workshops to enable fleet to be serviced more efficiently.

Regional Projects - Regional Projects (£0.5m) – provision to support the ongoing work towards a regional records management system development programme.

Capital Funding

Under the provisions of the Prudential Code, the PCC can invest in a capital programme so long as its capital spending plans are “affordable, prudent and sustainable”.

The capital programme is reflected in the PCC’s Treasury Management Strategy, which is presented annually to the Police and Crime Board, and regularly reviewed by the PCC’s Chief Finance Officer. This sets out the prudential indicators, which determine the limits set against the requirements of affordability, prudence and sustainability.

The PCC, in consultation with the Chief Constable, will identify available sources of funding in support of the capital programme. This will include the identification of potential capital receipts from the disposal of property.

The sources of capital funding available are detailed below.

	Current	MTFP					TOTAL £'000
	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000	
Home Office Grant	1,027	269	269	269	269	269	2,373
ESN Grant Funding	0	0	303	0	0	0	303
Revenue Contribution	7,449	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	44,879
General Capital Reserve	0	7,164	6,030	755	0	0	13,949
Capital Receipts (Estate)	0	0	0	7,807	5,306	0	13,113
Capital Receipts (Other)	100	100	100	100	100	100	600
Previous Borrowing	194	258	0	0	0	0	452
New Borrowing	6,255	5,095	1,000	0	0	0	12,350
TOTAL	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	12,675	7,369	85,589

- Home Office capital grant funding – The current value of this grant has been largely static for the last three years at just over £1m p.a. However, as part of the settlement announcements from

Government they have confirmed their intention to reduce this to £0.27m in 20/21, a reduction of £0.76m/74%. We have assumed that the value of this grant will remain frozen at this new level for the remainder of our 5 year plan;

- ESN Grant Funding – this reflects the funding made available to us to support the necessary upgrades to our control room infrastructure to enable the transition away from Airwave radio devices to this new capability;
- Revenue contribution – Over the course of previous MTFP's we have made provision for a gradual uplift in the value of the revenue contribution towards our capital funding – seeking a recurring budget of £5m p.a. However, in light of the further reduction to home office capital grant funding, and wider uncertainties of national programmes, we have further increased this budget to £7m p.a. with effect from 2020/21. The planned contributions are fully reflected within our revenue budget plans set out above;
- General capital reserve – this represents historic and ongoing funds which have been set aside to support general capital investment. The above plan shows we intend to fully exhaust these by the end of 2021/22;
- Capital receipts (Estate) – over the course of the period covered by the plan we anticipate selling a number of our buildings. The combined value of receipts already received (£3.5m), and those we are expecting to receive over the next 5 years to 24/25 (£9.6m) totals £13.1m over the course of the plan. There remains risk over those receipts not yet received both in terms of the value (subject to market factors at the point at which the asset is sold) and the timing (subject to us being in a position to release the asset from operational use) which we will continue to monitor;
- Capital receipts (Other) – over the course of the plan we are assuming some receipts generated from the sale of our vehicles and other assets that have reached the end of their useful life to us. On average we expect to generate £0.1m p.a.
- New borrowing – this reflects the current assumed profile of borrowing which will be undertaken in support of capital expenditure. The final value and profile of our borrowing will be subject to ongoing discussion and dialogue with the PCC, and depending on timing of capital expenditure may be delayed from that which is currently shown (thereby releasing a small revenue saving also).

Our funding principle generally assumes that for shorter-life assets, sources of funding other than borrowing will be used. Borrowing is planned to be used only against those longer-life assets, where the revenue provision needed to set aside for the repayment of the borrowing can be taken over a longer timeframe, thereby reducing the annual cost to our revenue budgets. All borrowing undertaken can only be done so with the approval of the PCC, and must be prudent, affordable and sustainable.

All of the revenue implications of the capital programme, including those costs which are either as a consequence of the direct funding or in order to service our borrowing (both interest and Minimum Revenue Provision) have been fully reflected in our revenue budget plans as set out earlier in our MTFP.

Reserves and Risk

Reserves

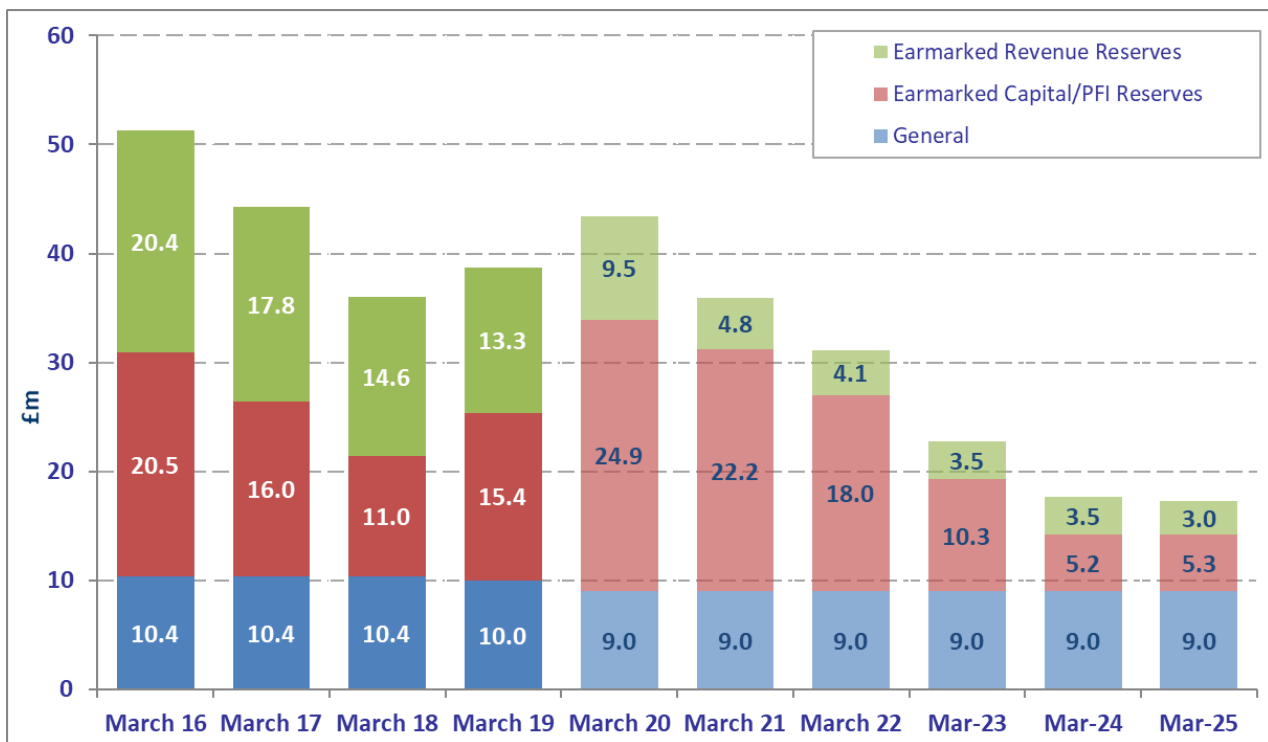
The PCC holds reserves in order to:-

- Support capital and revenue investment to continue our further transformation and change;
- Manage uncertainty and risk in our future; and
- Comply with accounting practice and convention.

As reported in our financial statements at the end of March 2019 the PCC had total usable reserves of £38.7m. This reflected a small increase of £2.7m/7.5% compared to the balance held 12 months previously.

Our projections across the medium term forecast that our reserves will increase in the short-term before significantly reducing over the medium term.

Figure 4: Useable reserve projections over the life of the MTFP



Our useable reserve levels are forecast to stand at £43.4m by the end of the 2019/20 financial year an increase of £4.7m/12.2%. We then forecast reductions over the medium term, with reserves standing at £17.3m by the end of the MTFP period (March 2025).

As the graph demonstrates the current projections estimate consumption of £7.4m in reserves during the 2020/21 financial year, with then further reductions over the following years. This reflects a projection only at this stage, and will therefore be subject to ongoing review and refinement as our plans crystalize.

Our reserve levels would not be expected to substantially reduce year-on-year beyond the balance forecast by 2025 for the following reasons:-

- Our **general fund** is set annually by the PCC’s Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Chief Constable’s Chief Finance Officer, and after a consideration of all risks facing the PCC. The risk level, and our appetite for the financial provision needed to assure ourselves, may change over the medium term enabling some reductions in this reserve – however, we will need to maintain some

provision here and **the general fund balance (£9.0m) represents 2.7% of 20/21 Net Revenue budget**, which would be at the lower end of the prudent range expected of us

- Our forecasts assume we would maintain an **operations reserve (£1.5m)** in order to provision for the one-off costs associated with a significant operation or investigation which placed our annual budget provisions under pressure;
- Our **PFI reserves** are used to equalise the phasing of our income (in the form of PFI credits) to our forecast expenditure. In the early years of the contract we generate a surplus which our accounting model requires us to put into reserves, in order to be released against the annual deficit in funding forecast in the later years of the contract. By so doing we are able to smooth the financial impact on the revenue budget over the life of these assets. By March 2025 we forecast that our PFI reserves will stand at **£5.2m**. Our financial model forecasts that this will be the peak level of these reserves, and that from this point onwards the reserves will begin to gradually reduce as we use the funds to help top-up our revenue budgets. Our modelling identifies that these reserve will not fully unwind until the 2038/39 financial year which will coincide with the end of our PFI contracts;
- The remainder of our reserves are made up of lots of smaller amounts. These reflect annual amounts expected to be held at any given year-end which relate to ring-fenced activity. This includes the value on our detained property fund (the majority of which is returnable), specific grants and ring-fenced receipts of funding unspent at any given year-end, as well as an ongoing road safety reserve generated through income received from speed awareness course referrals.

Risk

Given the extent of the modelling and assumptions required across the development of our MTFP, it is important that we have consideration of risks and the potential impact these could have on our forecasts and plans. The table below highlights some of the key risks identified:-

Risk	Potential scale	Mitigation
Grant Funding Value – the value of future grant levels is higher or lower than currently forecast owing to decisions made by the Government about the overall funding available to provide to PCC's.	1.0% of total grant funding is £2.0m p.a.	Grant funding is expected to increase each year for 3 years to fund the extra officers promised by the Government, inclusive of an increase for inflation (at lower rate than assumed for pay awards) to support the ongoing costs the Force will face during this period of uplift. Continued engagement with national programme of work to inform the 2021 Spending Review, and with colleagues in other forces to check suitability of assumptions being made.
Grant Funding Distribution – the value of future grant levels is higher or lower than current forecast owing to decisions made by the Government about how to distribute overall funding available to PCC's.	1.0% of formula grant funding is £1.8m p.a.	Engage with and monitor the work of the Home Office as they consult on proposals to change the current formula for distribution expected as part of Spending Review work.
Council Tax Base – the increase in council tax base currently forecast is higher or lower than currently forecast (1.5% growth p.a. from 20/21 onwards).	1.0% of council tax income is £1.3m p.a.	Ensure our forecasts for council tax base increases materially reflect those being made by local authorities themselves.
Council Tax Precept – the referendum cap is set at a lower level than that which is planned within our forward projections.	1.0% of council tax income is £1.3m p.a.	Forward plan assumes 1.99% annual increases, which to date has not been above the referendum cap set by the Government. Continue to seek confirmation from PCC about appropriateness of this assumption, and monitor Government information about referendum capping principles.
Pay Inflation – the increase in pay is higher or lower than currently forecast (3.0% increase p.a.).	1.0% of officer and staff pay is £2.1m p.a.	Benchmarking of our assumptions for future pay awards against other forces to ensure not outlier. Monitor Government, and emerging sector statements regarding future public sector pay.
Officer Pensions – the MTFP reflects the increase from the last valuation, which saw employer contributions increase to 31% with effect from April 2019. The MTFP recognises the ongoing risk, and includes further provision of £1m from 2023/24, to coincide with the timing of the next planned valuation.	1.0% change in employer contribution is £1.1m p.a	We do not expect the rate to change until it next comes under review. Experience of the 2018 valuation has meant service and Home Office have agreed to work more closely on monitoring arrangements – thereby ensuring any potential swings in future rates are forecast in a more timely manner.

Risk	Potential scale	Mitigation
<p>Staff Pensions – the MTFP reflects the increase from the 2019 valuation exercise, which will see our employer contributions rise to 16.3% with effect from April 2020. The MTFP recognises the ongoing risk, and includes further provision of £0.5m from 23/24, to coincide with the timing of the next planned valuation.</p>	<p>Additional 1.0% contribution is:- Staff = £0.52m p.a.</p>	<p>Monitor the ongoing position of actuarial reviews, engaging with this process through representation of the SCC LGPS Scheme Board.</p>
<p>Inflation – the UK economic and political position carries a lot of uncertainty and risk at present which could lead to fluctuations in inflation. Our assumptions for non-pay inflationary provisions, might not be appropriate to keep pace with increases in price.</p>	<p>Additional 1.0% on non-pay budgets is £0.4m p.a.</p>	<p>Continue to monitor emerging picture and determine if any adjustment needs to assumptions already factored in across the MTFP.</p>
<p>Capital Affordability – Our capital plans set out our ambitions in relation to both local and national projects and plans. They include a share of maintaining and replacing existing capabilities and infrastructure, with enhancements to support the realisation of the vision of providing outstanding policing in Avon and Somerset. However, we recognise the affordability challenges of our current plan in the latter years, particularly exacerbated by the forecast cost of the ESN project. Failure to close this gap will lead to us having to reduce the scope of our plans and/or identify alternative funding sources with resultant impacts on our revenue budgets.</p>	<p>Currently the deficit in our capital plan stands at £7.8m over the next five years.</p>	<p>Continue to review and refine plans, ensuring scrutiny of business cases as they are brought forward for consideration.</p> <p>Take opportunistic approach to ring-fencing revenue underspends to bolster capital funding options.</p> <p>Look to identify alternative sources of funding wherever possible to support our projects and plans (e.g. use of Salix loans).</p> <p>Consider further increases to the recurring revenue contributions to capital, raising this beyond the current £5m p.a.</p>

Appendix A – MTFP

	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
FUNDNG					
Forecast Funding					
Grant Funding	198,148	206,523	215,071	220,436	225,739
Council Tax Funding	130,303	135,147	139,886	144,792	149,871
TOTAL Funding	328,451	341,669	354,957	365,228	375,610
BUDGET REQUIREMENT					
2018/19 Base Budget					
<i>Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner</i>	1,417	1,417	1,417	1,417	1,417
<i>Commissioning</i>	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445
<i>Constabulary</i>	303,253	303,253	303,253	303,253	303,253
TOTAL 2019/20 Base Budget	308,114	308,114	308,114	308,114	308,114
Adjustments to Budgets Required/Planned					
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (inc savings)	112	158	205	253	303
Commissioning (inc savings)	43	43	43	43	43
Constabulary	26,896	41,334	55,658	68,379	80,212
TOTAL Adjustments to Budgets Required/Planned	27,051	41,535	55,905	68,675	80,558
Budget Requirement (before savings)					
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719
Commissioning	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488
Constabulary	330,149	344,587	358,911	371,632	383,465
TOTAL Budget Requirement	335,165	349,649	364,020	376,789	388,672
SAVINGS AND USE OF RESERVES					
(SURPLUS)/DEFICIT BEFORE SAVINGS	6,714	7,980	9,062	11,562	13,062
Savings					
Savings realised through budget build process	(5,438)	(5,838)	(5,838)	(5,838)	(5,838)
Procurement Savings	(797)	(797)	(797)	(797)	(797)
Enabling Services/Infrastructure Savings - Planned	(98)	(98)	(98)	(98)	(98)
Operational Services Savings - Planned	(138)	(138)	(138)	(138)	(138)
NPAS Reductions	(243)	(108)	(190)	(190)	(190)
New Savings to be identified	0	(1,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
TOTAL Savings	(6,714)	(7,980)	(9,062)	(9,062)	(9,062)
REVISED (SURPLUS)/DEFICIT	0	0	0	2,500	4,000
PROPOSED BUDGET					
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719
Commissioning	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488
Constabulary	323,435	336,607	349,849	362,570	374,403
TOTAL Proposed Budget	328,451	341,669	354,958	367,728	379,610

Appendix B – Revenue Funding Forecasts

	19/20 £'000	20/21 £'000	21/22 £'000	22/23 £'000	23/24 £'000	24/25 £'000
GRANT FUNDING						
Main Grants	162,598	174,768	183,540	192,043	200,898	206,202
Uplift Grant		3,843	3,445	3,491	-	-
Victims Commissioning	1,958	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001
Legacy Council Tax Grant	14,709	14,709	14,709	14,709	14,709	14,709
Pensions Grant	2,828	2,828	2,828	2,828	2,828	2,828
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	182,093	198,148	206,523	215,071	220,436	225,739
Annual Change (£'000)	6,179	16,055	8,375	8,549	5,364	5,304
Annual Change (%)	3.5%	8.8%	4.2%	4.1%	2.5%	2.4%
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (£'000)		16,055	24,430	32,979	38,343	43,646
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (%)	0.0%	9.1%	13.9%	18.7%	21.8%	24.0%
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (£'000)	-	22,121	6,066	2,309	10,857	16,222
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (%)	-10.8%	-3.0%	1.1%	5.3%	7.9%	10.5%
COUNCIL TAX FUNDING						
Council Tax Precept	123,076	130,068	134,647	139,386	144,292	149,371
Collection Fund Surplus	1,104	235	500	500	500	500
TOTAL COUNCIL TAX FUNDING	124,181	130,303	135,147	139,886	144,792	149,871
Annual Change (£'000)	15,609	6,123	4,843	4,739	4,906	5,079
Annual Change (%)	14.4%	4.9%	3.7%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (£'000)	15,609	21,731	26,575	31,314	36,220	41,300
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (%)	14.4%	20.0%	24.5%	28.8%	33.4%	40.7%
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (£'000)	29,526	35,648	40,492	45,231	50,137	55,216
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (%)	31.2%	37.7%	42.8%	47.8%	53.0%	58.3%
TOTAL FUNDING						
	306,274	328,451	341,669	354,957	365,228	375,610
Annual Change (£'000)	21,788	22,177	13,218	13,288	10,270	10,383
Annual Change (%)	7.7%	7.2%	4.0%	3.9%	2.9%	2.8%
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (£'000)	2178782.2%	43,965	57,183	70,472	80,742	91,125
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (%)	7.7%	15.5%	20.1%	24.8%	28.4%	32.2%
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (£'000)	7,405	29,582	42,800	56,088	66,359	76,741
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (%)	2.5%	9.9%	14.3%	18.8%	22.2%	25.7%
Grant Funding	59.5%	60.3%	60.4%	60.6%	60.4%	60.1%
Council Tax Funding	40.5%	39.7%	39.6%	39.4%	39.6%	39.9%
TOTAL Funding	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Average Band D Council Tax						
	£217.81p	£227.81p	£232.34p	£236.97p	£241.68p	£246.49p
Annual Change (£p)	£24.00	£10.00	£4.53	£4.62	£4.72	£4.81
Annual Change (%)	12.38%	4.59%	1.99%	1.99%	1.99%	1.99%
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (£p)	2400.00%	£34.00	£38.54	£43.16	£47.88	£52.69
Cumulative Change - Across MTFP (%)	12.38%	17.55%	19.88%	22.27%	24.70%	27.19%
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (£p)	£49.78	£59.78	£64.31	£68.94	£73.65	£78.46
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (%)	29.6%	35.6%	38.3%	41.0%	43.8%	46.7%
Council Tax Base						
	565,063	570,951	579,515	588,208	597,031	605,987
Annual Change (No. of Properties)	9,044	5,888	8,564	8,693	8,823	8,955
Annual Change (%)	1.63%	1.04%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (No.)	4,275	10,163	18,727	27,420	36,243	45,199
Cumulative Change - Since 2010 (%)	0.8%	1.8%	3.3%	4.9%	6.5%	8.1%

Appendix C – Revenue Costs Forecasts

	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'001
OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (OPCC)					
OPCC 2019/20 Budget	1,417	1,417	1,417	1,417	1,417
Provision for inflation	28	74	121	170	219
In-Year Adjustments to budget	(19)	(19)	(19)	(19)	(19)
Growth	108	108	108	108	108
Savings	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
OPCC Budget Requirement	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719
COMMISSIONING					
OPCC 2019/20 Budget	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445	3,445
Provision for inflation	0	0	0	0	0
Growth	43	43	43	43	43
Savings	0	0	0	0	0
Commissioning Budget Requirement	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE (THE CONSTABULARY)					
Original Constabulary 2019/20 Budget	301,420	301,420	301,420	301,420	301,420
In-Year Adjustments to budget	1,833	1,833	1,833	1,833	1,833
Revised Constabulary 2019/20 Budget	303,253	303,253	303,253	303,253	303,253
Police Officer Pay Awards	4,425	8,792	13,383	18,112	22,983
Police Staff/PCSO Pay Awards	1,764	5,177	8,207	11,328	14,542
Change to officer and staff unit cost	(5,235)	(6,235)	(7,235)	(6,235)	(5,235)
Officer Pensions - Actuarial valuation adjustments	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
Staff Pensions - Actuarial valuation adjustments	1,435	1,517	1,603	2,191	2,283
Other Pension adjustments	451	691	936	938	1,182
Adjustments to bank holiday overtime	194	407	(213)	(223)	(446)
Adjustments to officer allowances	(209)	(302)	(379)	(453)	(572)
Adjustments to apprenticeship levy	0	0	0	0	0
Pay and Staffing adjustments	2,825	10,047	16,302	26,659	35,738
General non-pay inflationary adjustments	754	1,462	2,137	2,826	3,528
Specific non-pay inflationary adjustments	305	600	904	1,220	1,546
Interest receivable adjustments	(255)	(255)	(255)	(255)	(255)
Non-Pay Inflationary adjustments	804	1,807	2,787	3,791	4,819
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Adjustments	205	473	701	734	742
Interest payable Adjustments	139	246	241	204	162
Direct Revenue Funding of Capital	421	421	421	421	421
Cost of Capital adjustments	765	1,140	1,363	1,358	1,324
New growth and investment	20,883	26,291	32,198	33,486	34,711
Regional and National Collaborations	1,058	1,624	2,225	3,020	3,661
Unavoidable commitments and adjustments	377	476	254	51	51
Glastonbury Festival - Reinstatement following fallow year	0	0	600	0	0
PFI model adjustments	185	(51)	(72)	14	(92)
Growth and commitment adjustments	22,502	28,340	35,206	36,571	38,331
Constabulary Budget Requirement	330,149	344,587	358,911	371,632	383,465
TOTAL BUDGET REQUIREMENT					
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	1,528	1,574	1,622	1,670	1,719
Commissioning	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488	3,488
Constabulary	330,149	344,587	358,911	371,632	383,465
TOTAL Budget Requirement	335,165	349,649	364,020	376,789	388,672

Appendix D – Capital Programme

Summary Capital Programme	Current Yr						TOTAL £'000
	Forecast 2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Expenditure							
BAU Replacement Programmes							
- ICT Replacement	2,916	6,425	3,288	6,138	6,516	3,373	28,656
- Estates Replacement	941	1,244	400	400	400	400	3,785
- Fleet Replacement	2,886	2,672	2,497	2,569	2,543	2,928	16,094
- Equipment Replacement	190	408	308	268	268	268	1,710
Sub-Total Replacement Programme	6,933	10,749	6,493	9,375	9,727	6,969	50,245
Capital Projects							
- Digital Projects	2,097	1,944	3,961	6,131	10,491	300	24,924
- Estates Projects	5,994	7,094	4,148	325	200	0	17,761
- Regional Projects	0	100	100	100	100	100	500
Sub-Total Capital Projects	8,091	9,138	8,209	6,556	10,791	400	43,186
Funded or Part-Funded Projects							
- Expenditure on Funded Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funded or Part-Funded Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Capital Expenditure	15,024	19,887	14,702	15,931	20,518	7,369	93,431
Funding							
Specific Purpose Funding							
- Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Grant Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Specific Purpose Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
General Purpose Funding							
- Home Office Capital Grant Funding	(1,027)	(269)	(269)	(269)	(269)	(269)	(2,373)
- A&S Revenue Contributions	(9,879)	(7,000)	(7,000)	(7,000)	(7,000)	(7,000)	(44,879)
- A&S Rev Cont to move to Cap Fin Res	2,430	0	0	0	0	0	2,430
- General Capital Reserve	0	(7,164)	(6,030)	(755)	0	0	(13,949)
- ESN Grant Funding	0	0	(303)	0	0	0	(303)
- Capital Receipts	0	0	0	(7,807)	(5,306)	0	(13,113)
- Vehicle Sales & other	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(600)
- Outstanding Borrowing from 18/19	(194)	(258)	0	0	0	0	(452)
- New Borrowing	(6,255)	(5,095)	(1,000)	0	0	0	(12,350)
Total General Purpose Funding	(15,024)	(19,887)	(14,702)	(15,931)	(12,675)	(7,369)	(85,589)
TOTAL Capital Funding	(15,024)	(19,887)	(14,702)	(15,931)	(12,675)	(7,369)	(85,589)
Surplus (-)/Deficit (+)	0	0	(0)	(0)	7,843	(0)	7,843

Appendix E – Reserves Forecast

	ACTUAL		FORECAST				
	Bal as at 31st March 2019	Bal as at 31st March 2020	Bal as at 31st March 2021	Bal as at 31st March 2022	Bal as at 31st March 2023	Bal as at 31st March 2024	Bal as at 31st March 2025
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Carry Forwards	930	661	200	200	200	200	200
Operations reserve	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Operation Remedy	0	1,059	0	0	0	0	0
Overtime liability	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0	0
Buildings and sustainability	449	306	250	100	0	0	0
Transformation reserve	2,520	200	200	200	200	200	200
DISCRETIONARY RESERVES	6,399	4,726	2,150	2,000	1,900	1,900	1,900
SW ROCU	1,999	966	156	81	6	6	6
Proceeds of Crime	346	296	150	150	150	150	150
DPR Reserves	1,385	365	300	300	300	300	300
Insurance reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Specific revenue grants	659	642	364	187	19	19	19
Hinkley Point	53	841	806	710	487	426	0
Road Safety	1,363	996	500	300	300	300	300
LRF Reserve	50	106	50	50	50	50	50
Victims and Commissioning	779	299	100	100	100	100	100
Miscellaneous Reserve	219	228	200	200	200	200	200
Regional Programme Reserve	29	29	0	0	0	0	0
NON-DISCRETIONARY RESERVES	6,882	4,768	2,626	2,078	1,612	1,551	1,125
Capital Financing reserve	6,717	13,949	6,785	755	0	0	0
Capital earmarked reserves	308	80	20	40	60	20	20
PFI Change Reserve	477	477	100	0	0	0	0
PFI Interest Smoothing Account	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PFI Sinking Fund Reserve	4,375	4,422	4,804	4,969	5,099	5,191	5,243
Capital Receipts Reserve	3,528	5,968	10,463	12,263	5,106	0	0
CAPITAL AND PFI RESERVES	15,405	24,896	22,172	18,027	10,265	5,211	5,263
General Fund	10,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
TOTAL Useable Reserves	38,686	43,390	35,948	31,105	22,777	17,662	17,288

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AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT

4 FEBRUARY 2020

The following briefing provides an update for Panel Members on key activities since the last Panel meeting on 11 December 2019. This report reflects the position at 22 January 2020.

Governance and Scrutiny

Appointment of OPCC Interim Chief Executive Officer

Following a selection process and a PCP Confirmation Hearing held on 8 January, Mark Simmonds has been appointed as Interim OPCC Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer. The appointment term will be part-time on a 9 month fixed-term contract in order to provide continuity of advice to the PCC and management of the OPCC team. The interim post will allow for appointment of a substantive Chief Executive Officer following the PCC elections in May 2020.

Police and Crime Needs Assessment

The PCNA has been finalised and published on the Avon & Somerset PCC election microsite, which hosts key information for candidates and members of the public. The microsite can found at the following link: <https://aspccelections.co.uk/>

Police and Crime Board

Agendas and minutes of the Police and Crime Board are published at the following link: <https://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/Reports-and-meetings/Police-and-Crime-Board.aspx>

Key Decisions

No key decisions have been made since the last meeting. Decision notices and accompanying documents are published at the following link: <https://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/Decisions.aspx>

OPCC Scrutiny Panels

- **Out of Court Disposals Scrutiny Panel** – the Panel will meet on 4 March to review cases resolved by Community Resolution and the use of Restorative Justice. The theme has been selected in order to scrutinise appropriate use of low-level disposals and explore and address issues identified around confusion in terminology. The Panel will also review Terms of Reference.
- **Scrutiny of the Use of Police Powers Panel** – at the last meeting on 28 November 2019, members continued their independent review of randomly selected Taser deployments, Spit & Bite Guard use and Stop Search incidents (within 3 themes of under 16s, BAME, and more than jacket, outer garment and gloves being removed). This meeting was observed by an HMICFRS Inspector, as occurred in November 2018. The Panel also

received a Constabulary report on policing mental ill health (2018 and 2019 documents) and an update on section 60 Stop Search policy, the net increase in Police Officer recruitment and increase in Taser trained Officers based on risk, harm and threat decision-making by the Chief Constable. Members' key points of continued review include encouraging an increase in the percentage of cases where Body Worn Video camera is switched on and recording the reason for no BWV; encouraging Police Officers to switch on their BWV early and data accuracy.

- **Independent Residents Panel** – The IRP last met on the 5th December 2019 with the session focusing on whether the force values of inclusive and caring were evident in the way complaints were handled. The feedback of the session is currently being analysed and will be published on the website once the report is complete. The quarterly reports as well as the 2019 annual report can be viewed here: <https://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/Scrutiny>
The next meeting is scheduled for the 5th March 2020.

Independent Custody Visiting Scheme

The Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) continue with their unannounced visits to each of the 3 Custody Units (Bridgwater, Patchway and Keynsham) once every 4 days, to observe and check on the welfare, rights and entitlements of detainees. This includes the new detainee dignity aspects commencing from 21 August 2019 with new legislation in the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) Code C. ICVs are seeking assurances that female detainees are offered sanitary towels (a 'female hygiene pack') and offered to talk with a female Officer. ICVs welcome the installation in Custody Units of talking software for speaking out Rights & Entitlements to detainees who are blind or partially sighted, or who cannot read printed documents. Further information about ICV role can be found on the PCC's website: <https://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Take-Part/ICVs/Apply-to-be-an-ICV.aspx>

Commissioning and Partnership Working

A&S Criminal Justice Transformation Programme

As Members will recall, the A&S Criminal Justice Transformation Programme was established to deliver recommendations of a Home Office-funded review of the local criminal justice system carried out by the Behavioural Insights Team in 2017. The term of appointment for the Senior Responsible Officer appointed to lead the programme came to an end in December 2019. However work to transform the criminal justice service continues through a number of key strands:

- Work with the Constabulary Data Science and Innovation Centre to enable multi-agency, real-time performance management information to manage demand across the criminal justice journey;
- A Criminal Justice Taskforce led by the Police and CPS to drive up performance in file quality with a focus on establishing 'what good looks like' and getting it right first time;
- Proposals to improve the criminal justice response to RASSO (Rape and Serious Sexual Offences) cases.

A review of governance arrangements is also underway following recommendations considered at the A&S Criminal Justice Board meeting in December.

Victims Governance

As Members will recall, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) wrote to PCCs on 8 May 2019 setting out requirements for PCC-led monitoring and reporting of local compliance with the Victims Code of Practice. The Victims Governance Group will meet on 29 January to carry out dip sampling to test compliance, looking at cases on the theme of burglary. The group will also discuss progress in addressing actions identified in the pilot dip sampling session, including work to improve the offer and use of Victim Personal Statements and to map the victim's journey through the criminal justice system to improve understanding of what to expect, roles and responsibilities.

Feedback is awaited from the Ministry of Justice in response to findings of the pilot dip sampling session which were submitted in November 2019. A MoJ will host a workshop in March 2020 to discuss their intentions with regard to future VCOP compliance monitoring. Following initial consultation in summer 2019, a second round of consultation on revisions to the Victims Code of Practice is expected in early 2020. Consultation is also expected on new legislation to enshrine victims' rights and entitlements in a 'Victims's Law'.

Lammy Review

Desmond Brown was appointed in May as Independent Chair of the Avon & Somerset Lammy Review Sub-Group, established to lead local implementation of the Lammy Review of BAME representation in the criminal justice system. The group is taking forward a programme of work based around the three pillars of fairness, trust and shared responsibility. Work is ongoing to take forward priority work in reviewing data collected by partners to build a clear picture of data currently available and taking forward work to challenge discrepancies, improve recording practice and ensure that local data is consistent and robust. A presentation on progress will be provided to the Panel at the March meeting.

Avon and Somerset Reducing Reoffending – Resolve

The redefined focus of the Resolve board has driven progress in a number of areas. A review of IOM in Avon and Somerset is currently being commissioned and work at a regional level has begun with the Data Science and Innovation centre to develop a new system of multi-agency data collection to better inform commissioning and better evaluate the impact on reoffending of different interventions.

Business cases for three projects are currently being evaluated for funding. 'Release Ready' will seek to improve the quality of engagement and preparation of men being released from HMP Bristol to reduce the amount being released without structured and supported plans and coordinated engagement from local authorities and support agencies in their home area. The PCC and Local Authorities are seeking to co fund a one to one voluntary intervention with perpetrators of domestic violence who are not currently being managed through IOM and this is being developed in partnership with the CRC. Women in the criminal justice system are a large focus of the board and an Avon and Somerset wide scoping exercise has been completed to identify where commissioning of new services could have the greatest and more systemic impact. In addition a pilot at Bristol magistrate's court will be seeking to work with the system to reduce the number of women being sent into prison in line with the MOJ Female Offenders strategy.

The Regional Reducing Reoffending Board, chaired by the Commissioner, continues to meet and a Regional SRO has been appointed and has commenced work in all areas of the boards three priority groups- women, short term sentences and youth to adult transition. As Members will recall, the South West was the first in the country to establish a Regional Reducing Reoffending Board, and progress in developing the regional approach has received strong support from the Ministry of Justice.

Serious Violence

The OPCC and partners continue to prioritise work to introduce Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) across the five local authority areas of Avon and Somerset. Work is progressing well with the focus being on the mobilisation of resources to deliver the year one priorities (the first two of which will be completed by the end of February 2020):

1. Problem Profile / Needs Assessment
2. Response Strategy
3. Interventions

This is alongside work being undertaken by the Constabulary including Op Remedy and the Home Office's Policing Surge funding.

The next meeting of the Strategic VRU chaired by the PCC, will be on the 7 January 2020 and includes Local Authority Leaders. This meeting's priorities are informed by a workplan based on the BIT report (now available [online](#)). Following the first meeting, membership has been expanded to include Probation and Immigration and the Terms of Reference updated for the group to meet quarterly. The group has already prioritised engagement with health on data sharing and work is progressing with a range of partners to make improvements in this important area. Within the OPCC the initial focus has been on establishing governance arrangements and meeting Home Office reporting and grant agreement requirements.

On 30 December 2019 the 18 forces currently delivering VRU work have been informed that funding will continue. A further £35million has been agreed for 2020/21. Avon and Somerset will receive the same funding amount as 2019/20 (£1,160,000). The OPCC have been told that there will be an application process, at this stage it is unknown what form this will take and whether there will be any Home Office direction as to how they wish the funding to be allocated or spent. The OPCC will work closely with VRU leads and wider partners to coordinate the 20/21 application.

It is unknown at this time whether the Police Serious Violence surge fund will continue post March 2020. Home Office officials have stated that until after the Police Settlement is agreed, can they then confirm any future funding.

Home Office funding for Child Criminal Exploitation

As Members will recall, funding was secured from the Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund for the ROUTES project, tackling child criminal exploitation. The project is being delivered in two areas, with a focus on tackling gang affiliation in the Central and East District areas of Bristol, and county lines activity in Somerset. The project includes both 1:1 therapeutic work as well as preventative work with 5 secondary schools. In the last quarter,

the Bristol project had 27 open cases, with 10 referrals and 7 new cases opened. In Somerset there were 12 open cases (plus one consultation case), 10 referrals and 4 new cases opened.

The ROUTES service took part in a Home Office-hosted event on 5 December to showcase and share best practice. Work is ongoing to explore funding options beyond the current funding period in March 2020.

Mental Health

Work has continued to remodel the mental health control room triage service over recent months – led by the OPCC, working closely with the Constabulary and the provider Avon and Wiltshire Partnership (AWP). Members will recall that the provider struggled to staff the service and it became apparent it was delivering less over the phone advice to officers and staff than had originally been envisaged. Since the beginning of December a number of process changes have taken place, in particular streamlining the referral process so that referrals can only be made over the phone. Further work is ongoing to evaluate the impact of this change and consider the best physical location for the service moving forwards.

Safer Streets

In October the Home Office announced that there would be a new £25 million Safer Streets fund for new security measures in areas most disproportionately affected by acquisitive crime. However this was put on hold following the announcement of a General Election and has now been reinvigorated. The Home Office are making the funding available for PCCs to work with partners to deliver initiatives that will reduce volume crime and alongside that build up a better evidence base for what works in terms of both existing well tried activity and new innovative initiatives.

The proposal is that this will be a one year pilot that will target areas where there is a high level of acquisitive crime and where PCCs and partners have the data/evidence base to confirm that. PCCs and partners will have to bid for the funding and it may require an element of match funding. The process is likely to have two phases. The OPCC, Constabulary and a local authority representative are due to attend a workshop in London at the end of January to hear more about the fund and the next steps.

Police & Crime Grant

The three year allocation of the Police and Crime grant comes to an end in March 2020. The OPCC wrote to all Community Safety Partnership (CSPs) leads in November to confirm that the PCC had decided to extend the Police and Crime grant for one further year (2020/21). As previously CSPs will be required to complete a simple template setting out how they will use the funding ahead of April 2020 and to report against spend on a six monthly basis.

Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service

The Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service – provided by Safelink – have been awarded Lime Culture (nationally recognised body in sexual violence training and development) Accreditation and therefore Quality Mark. The Accreditation Programme includes a 7-stage process that incorporates a documentary evidence review, interviews and a site visit. Services assessed as meeting the Quality Standards achieve an independent

Quality Mark, services are then subject to on-going monitoring to ensure the quality of services is maintained.

Standing Updates:

Fire Governance: The OPCC continue to represent local blue light services on the West of England Combined Authority Joint Asset Board. Discussions also continue with our 2 local fire authorities about various potential joint estate projects.

Estates: An update will be circulated to Members in advance of the meeting.

Recruitment Update: At the request of Panel Members, an update on police officer and PCSO numbers will be provided as a standing item through the coming year, using 1 April 2018 as the baseline. The position as at 31 December 2019 is as follows:

Staff Group	FTE as at Apr-18	FTE as at end Dec 2019
Police Officers	2,593.63	2,641.65
PCSOs	331.44	319.90

PCC Election 2020: Preparatory work continues for the PCC Election in May 2020. Preparations are being overseen by the Election Planning Board, chaired by the OPCC Interim Chief Executive. An election microsite has gone live which will host information and resources for both candidates and those interested in the election. The OPCC is working closely with the Police Area Retuning Officer to ensure key information will be included on the website. This is still in development but can be accessed at the following link: <https://aspccelections.co.uk/> Introductory meetings will be arranged for candidates as they are announced. The pre-election period date has now been agreed, and will commence on 23 March 2020.

National Updates

Queen's Speech

The Government's legislative agenda includes the following policing and criminal justice measures:

- Counter Terrorism (Sentencing and Release) Bill – ensuring the most serious and dangerous terrorist offenders stay in prison for longer;
- Sentencing Bill – ensuring the most serious and violent offenders serve more of their sentences in custody;
- Serious Violence Bill – placing a duty on public bodies to work together to identify and tackle early factors that can lead to crime and strengthen police powers with respect to stop and search;
- Police Powers and Protection Bill – establishing a Police Covenant and providing additional support and protection to ensure that the police are able to conduct their duties;

- Prisoners (Disclosure of Information about Victims) Bill – requiring the Parole Board to take into account the impact on the victim and their families in cases where offenders refuse to disclose information about their crimes;
- Domestic Abuse Bill – to be reintroduced from the previous Parliamentary session, strengthening protections for victims and providing new enforcement mechanisms;
- Extradition (Provisional Arrest) Bill – powers to arrest an offender wanted for a serious crime committed in a trusted country, without having to apply to a court for a warrant first;
- Victims Law Reform – introduction of a Victim’s Law to guarantee victims’ rights and the level of support they can expect, together with consultation on a revised Victims Code of Practice with enhanced powers for the Victim’s Commissioner to better hold criminal justice agencies and the government to account;
- Proposals with regard to foreign national offenders, including increasing the maximum penalty for those who return to the UK in breach of a deportation order;
- For the Government to establish a Royal Commission to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice process.

Operation Uplift

As Members will recall, the Government announced its intention to provide funding in order to enable the recruitment of 20,000 additional police officers over the next 3 years. The specific allocation of officers to Avon and Somerset has been announced as 137 by the end of the next financial year (end March 2021). Funding has now been received from the Home Office, details are included in the budget report. Work continues to respond to the proposals.

Contact Officer – Mark Simmonds, Interim Chief Executive

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Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Performance Summary

October – December 2019

Introduction

The Avon and Somerset Police and crime plan has four priorities and within each of these a number of objectives to deliver in achieving that priority.

- Priority 1 – Protect the most vulnerable from harm
- Priority 2 – Strengthen and improve your local communities
- Priority 3 – Ensure Avon and Somerset Constabulary has the right people, the right capability and the right culture
- Priority 4 – Work together effectively with other police forces and key partners to provide better services to local people

We have also defined what the plan ultimately seeks to achieve which are the following five outcomes:

1. People are safe
2. Vulnerable people/victims are protected and supported
3. Offenders are brought to justice
4. People trust the police
5. People feel safe

This performance report seeks to provide a picture of performance against the Police and Crime Plan and will be reported on a quarterly basis. The report examines a wide array of differing measures that have been put into two categories.

Success Measures

These are measures whereby looking at the data alone will indicate how well the Constabulary or other service are performing. This will consider both the snapshot of performance during the quarter in conjunction with the trend over a longer period of time. These two factors together will be translated into a three tier performance grading based on defined ranges of expected performance:

Exceeds expectations – performance exceeds the top of the range and does not have a negative trend.

Meets expectations – performance is within the range and does not have a negative trend or is above the range but has a negative trend.

Below expectations – performance is below the bottom of the range or is within the range but shows a negative trend.

The report will highlight when the grading has changed from the previous quarter.

The performance ranges will be reviewed on an annual basis or as required if there are other significant changes in processes. This is to ensure these ranges remain current and continue to provide meaningful insight.

Diagnostic Measures

These are measures where conclusions cannot be drawn from simply looking at the data and need further analysis to try and understand if any change is good or bad. An example may be numbers of recorded crimes. If this was to increase, on the face of it, it looks bad i.e. more crime being committed. However this increase could be attributable to better internal crime recording or an increase in the public confidence to report crime where they were not previously: both of which would actually be a success.

The individual measures are aligned to an outcome or outcomes rather than any particular objective within the plan because objectives, and even priorities, cannot be delivered or reported on in isolation.

Dashboards

There are about 150 separate measures that form the basis of the performance framework. These measures are spread across a number of dashboards:

- Central
- Victims
- Legitimacy
- Criminal Justice (to be developed)
- Op Remedy – this is the Constabulary operation to tackle knife crime, burglary and drug crime that was made possible through extra raised by increasing the precept and started in April 2019.

The central dashboard contains a variety of the most important measures whereas the others contain a suite of measure that all relate to that theme. It is only the central dashboard which will be reported in full in every version of this report. The other dashboards will be reported as a single aggregate measure (average performance of all the measures within it) or as a graded judgement (Op Remedy contains more than numerical measures). However individual measures, within the supplementary dashboards, will reported on by exception.

Like all aspects of delivery this report itself seeks to continuously improve so additional measures will be included as relevant data is identified, gathered and made available.

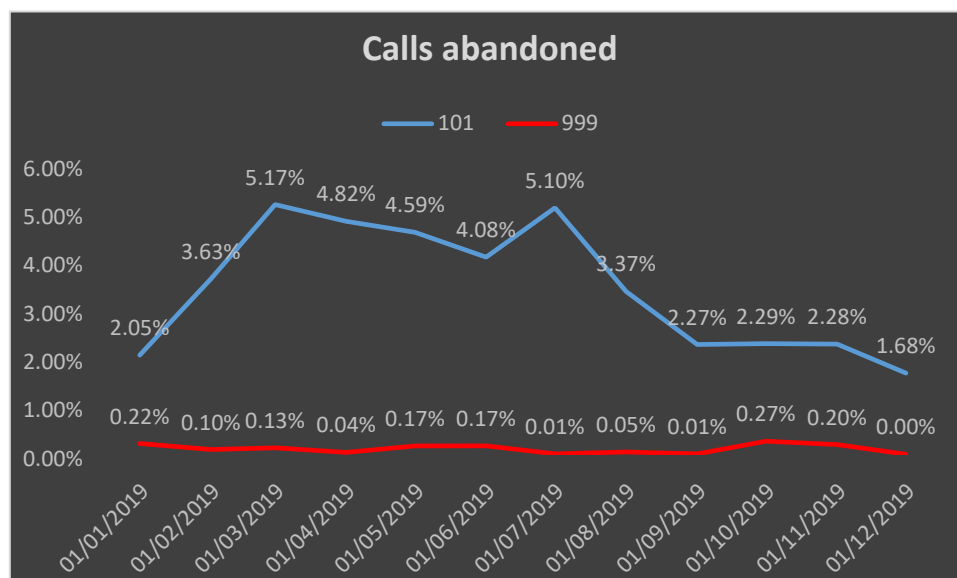
Appendix 1 explains some of the below measures which are not obvious by their description as to what they are.

Performance by outcome

People are safe

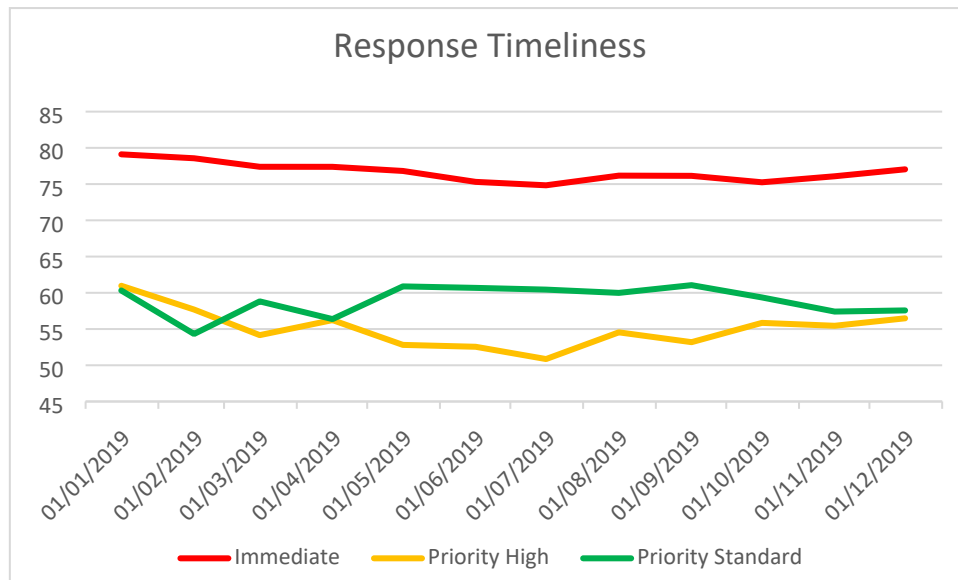
Measure	Current performance	Trend	Grading
999 abandonment rate % of all calls	0.16%	Stable	Meets expectations
101 abandonment rate % of all calls	2.10%	Stable	Exceeds expectations
Timeliness of attendance of calls graded as <i>Immediate</i> % attended within SLA	76.14	Moderate downward trend	Below expectations
Timeliness of attendance of calls graded as <i>Priority High</i> % attended within SLA	55.92	Stable	Meets expectations
Timeliness of attendance of calls graded as <i>Priority Standard</i> % attended within SLA	58.23	Stable	Meets expectations
Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions	74	Stable	N/A
Numbers of recorded crimes	34987	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Demand Complexity	307598	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Victimisation Rate Number of victims per 10,000 population ¹	151	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Harm score managed offenders	2292	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Op Remedy graded judgement	N/A	N/A	Meets expectations

¹Based on Office of National Statistics 2018 Population Estimates of 1,711,473.



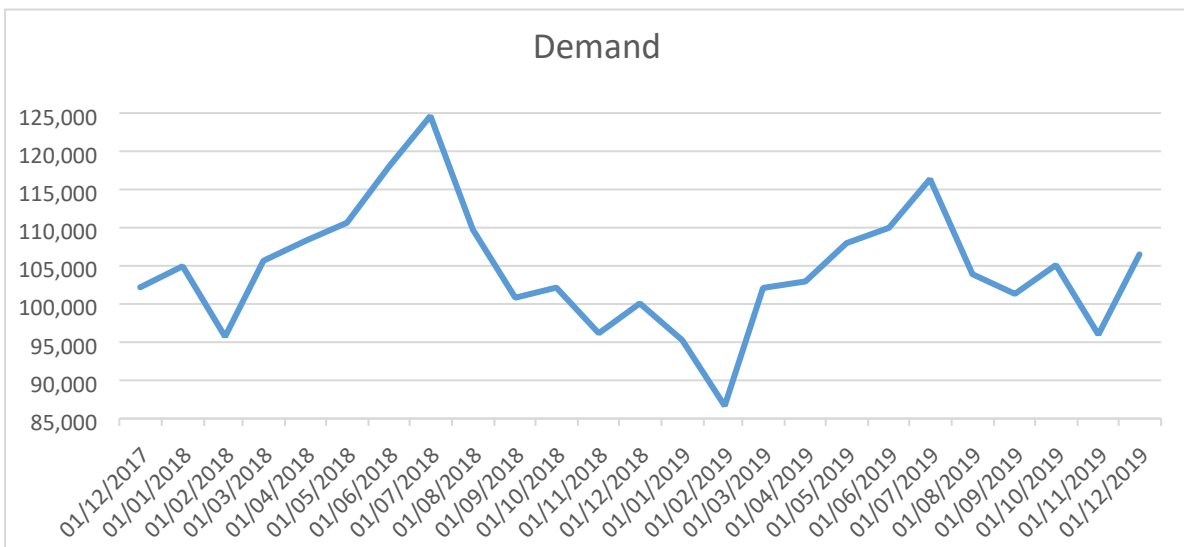
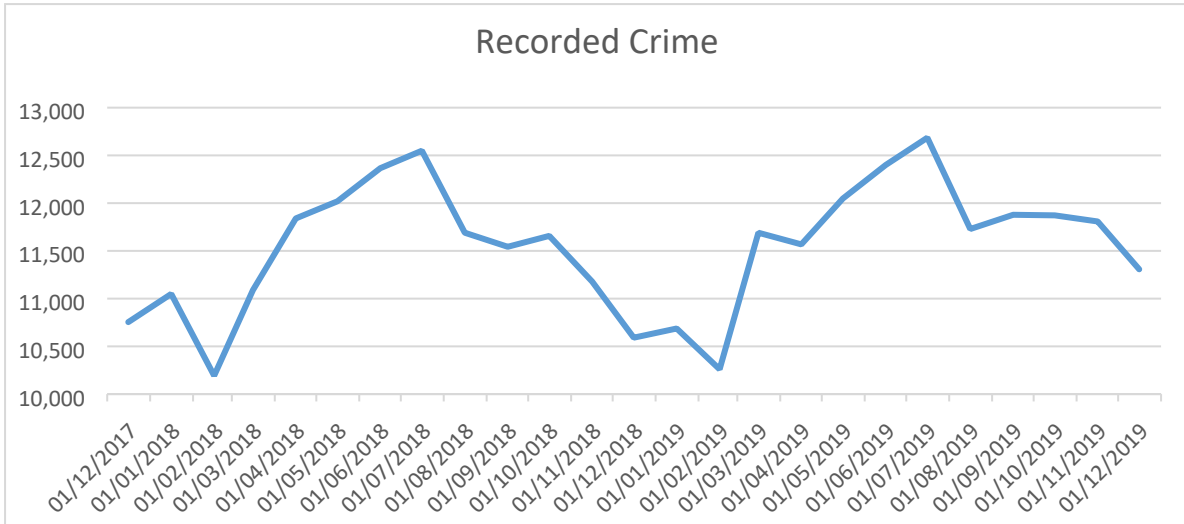
The 999 abandonment rate for the last quarter has declined by 0.14% points but this is still near the top of the expected performance range and is stable. Even with this slight decrease it continues to be one of the strongest areas of performance for the Constabulary.

The 101 abandonment rate has improved by 1.53% points compared to quarter two and although the trend is still classed as stable this quarter's result is now above the expected performance range.



The above graph shows the percentage of calls responded to within the SLA (see Appendix 1 for more information). Immediate calls timeliness has increased by 0.46% points on the last quarter and is within range; however the trend is still downward. Priority high calls have also improved this quarter by 3% points and this has stopped the downward trend. Priority standard timeliness is still within range and stable but has decreased this quarter by 2.2% points.

Timeliness of response is a key area of focus for the Constabulary who are trying to make short term, sustainable improvements prior to the arrival of the additional officers funded through Op Uplift. Op Uplift is the recruitment of 20,000 additional police officers, across the country, that was announced at the end of 2019.



As can be seen in the above crime, and demand more generally, have strong seasonal trends: they peak in July and are at the lowest in February. Quarter three recorded crime and demand is, as expected, lower than quarter two however the decrease is not as marked. Compared to the same quarter last year both crime and demand are higher; year to date (April – December) crime is 2% higher but demand is 2% lower.

The victimisation rate follows the same seasonal pattern, as would be expected, so the number of victims this quarter has decreased a small amount compared to quarter two. In comparison to the same quarter last year there are 1.3% fewer victims.

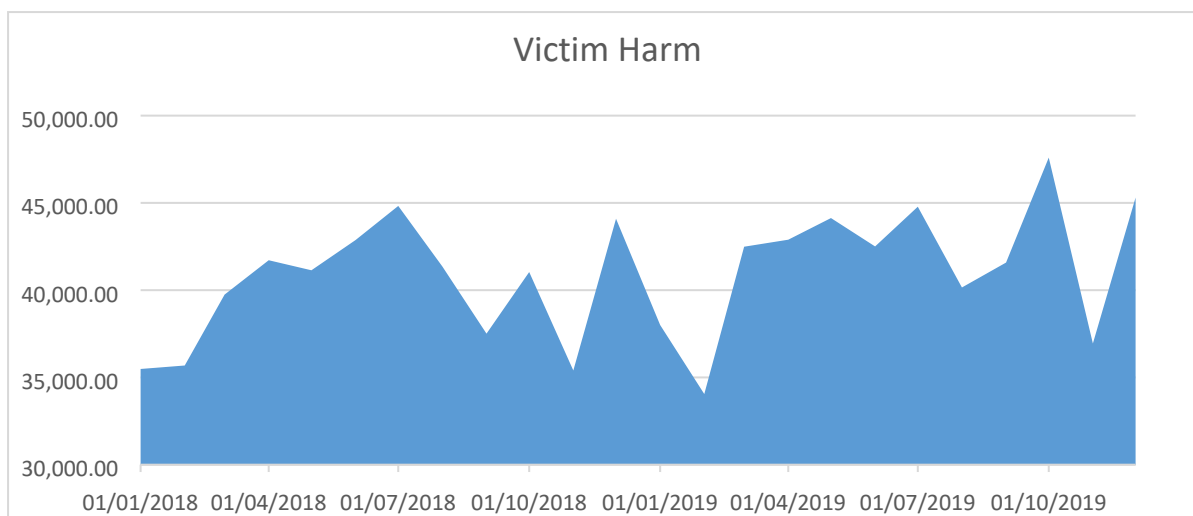
	Residential Burglary	Drug Trafficking ²	Knife Crime
	R e c o r d e d C r i m e		
Q3 2018/19	1,675	129	623
Q3 2019/20	1,558	136	720
	P o s i t i v e O u t c o m e R a t e		
Q3 2018/19	4.9%	76.4%	26.8%
Q3 2019/20	6.4%	76.3%	25.0%

²Trafficking includes all drug offences that are not simple possession; including possession with intent to supply (PWITS).

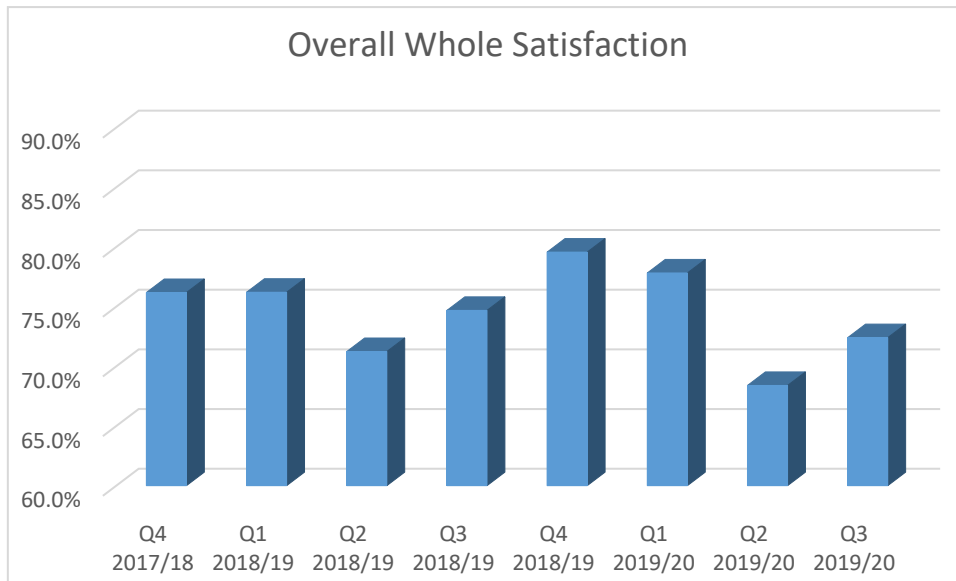
The overall judgement of Op Remedy is that it meets expectations. The positive outcome rate this quarter is less than quarter two and the three main crime types have not seen any significant change at a force level. However the positive outcome rate for those offences actually investigated by the Op Remedy team is much higher but they do not investigate the majority of these crimes. Consideration needs to be given as to what can be learnt from the work within Op Remedy and how this can trigger positive change across the rest of the force to drive up the overall rates in a sustainable way.

Vulnerable people/victims are protected and supported

Measure	Current performance	Trend	Grading
Harm score victims	129843	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Victims aggregate measure	N/A	N/A	Meets expectations



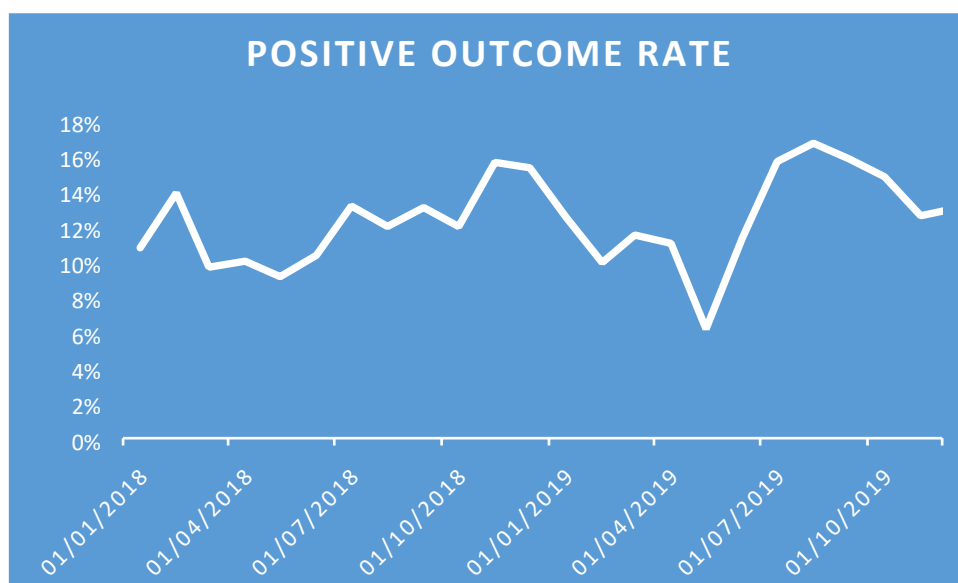
Total victim harm tends to be seasonal, like crime, although unusually this year total victim harm in this quarter is higher than either quarters one or two. This difference can be explained in there being a greater number of high harm offences: there were more murders in quarter three (5) than there were in the first six months of the year combined (3).



Within the Victims Dashboard – although most are stable and within range – a number of elements of user satisfaction have exceeded the range this quarter: two of the measures related to Hate Crime and two of the measures relating to the Lighthouse Victim and Witness Care Unit.

Offenders are brought to justice

Measure	Current performance	Trend	Grading
Positive Outcome rate % of all offences	13.6	Stable	Meets expectations
Conviction rate % of all court cases	87.66	Stable	Meets expectations
Criminal Justice aggregate measure	N/A	N/A	TBC

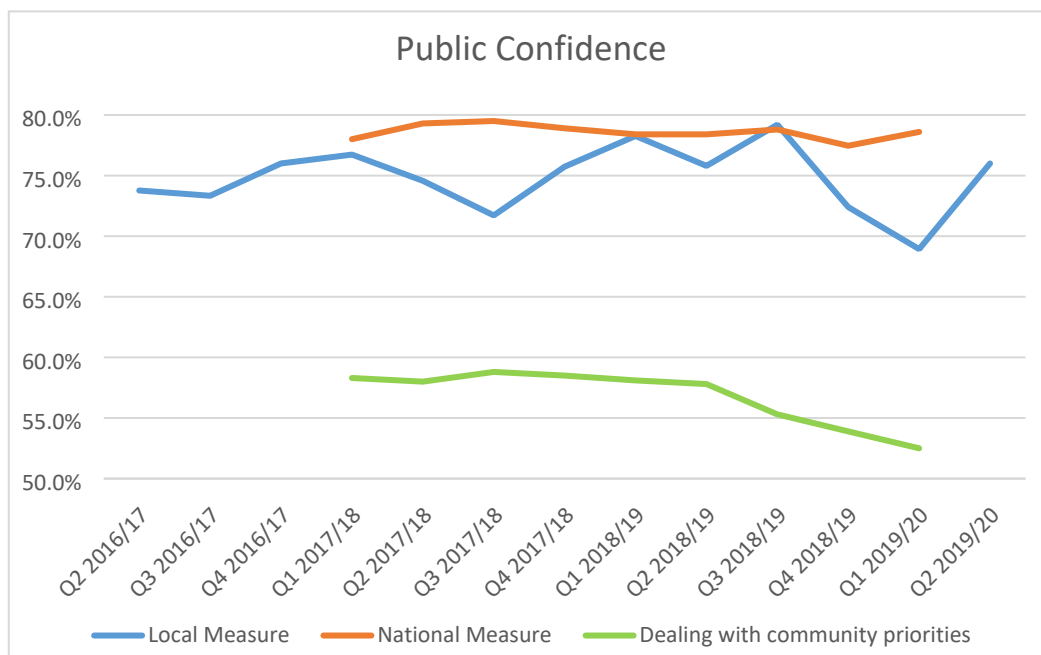


The quarter three positive outcome rate has reduced 2.5% points which brings it back within range and is still stable overall. The year to date rate is 13.2% which is higher than either of the previous two years 2017/18 and 2018/19.

The conviction rate is stable but has increased 1.57% points this quarter compared to last and is now near the top of the expected performance range.

People trust the police

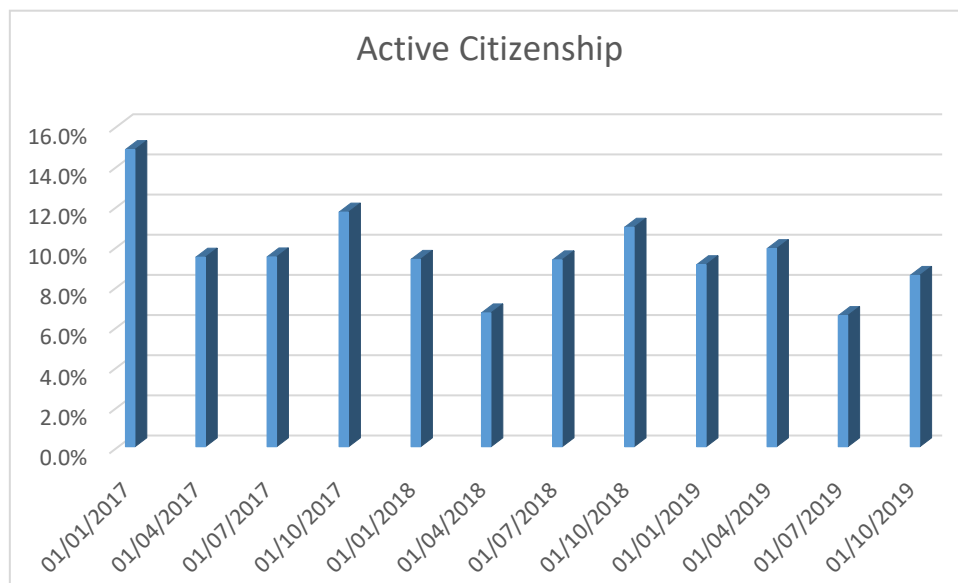
Measure	Current performance	Trend	Grading
Public Confidence (National measure) % agree	78.6	Stable	Meets expectations
Confidence in the Police (Local measure) % agree	76.0	Stable	Meets expectations
Dealing with community priorities % agree	52.5	Moderate downward trend	Below expectations
Active Citizenship % of people engaged	8.5	Stable	Below expectations
Workforce representativeness % BAME	3.26	Strong upward trend	Exceeds expectations
Complaints of incivility	41	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Disproportionality of Stop Search by ethnicity	4.27	Stable	<i>Diagnostic</i>
Legitimacy aggregate measure	N/A	N/A	Meets expectations



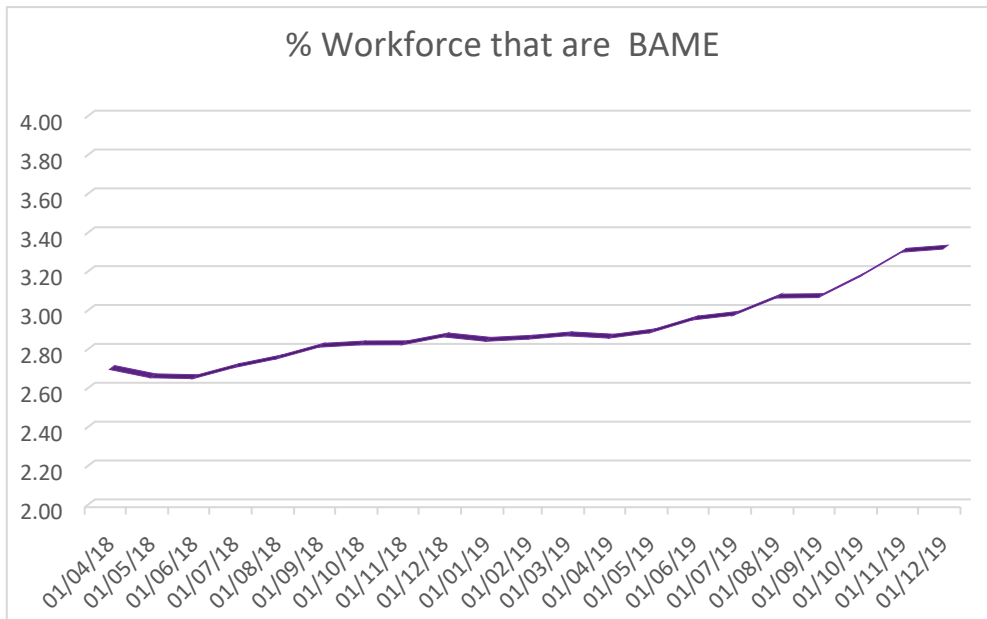
Both the local and national public confidence measures have increased on the previous quarter; 7.1% points and 1.1% points respectively. An important point to recognise is that, although the survey questions are asking about confidence in Avon and Somerset Constabulary particularly,

people's perception of policing can be influenced by national factors and media reporting such as the increase in knife violence and the way rape cases are being handled by the criminal justice system.

Dealing with community priorities, which is from the same national survey, shows a different picture: this has decreased 1.4% points on the previous quarter and continues the downward trend. However this is still within the expected range. This decline is interesting given that our local survey tells us that the community's resounding priority is reassurance through visible policing. As can be seen below the same survey tells us that perceived safety and visibility are both increasing so there needs to be some consideration of what is causing these seemingly contradictory results.



There are a decreasing number of people engaged in active citizenship although it is not as marked as to be classified as a trend over the last three years. This has decreased by 1.4% points from last reported (quarter one result) and is now below expected performance. Active citizenship is really important both for Constabulary and community resilience and the Constabulary has recently agreed to grow the Citizens in Policing team in order to be able to better support those who do volunteer their time and also to try and engage more people in the process.



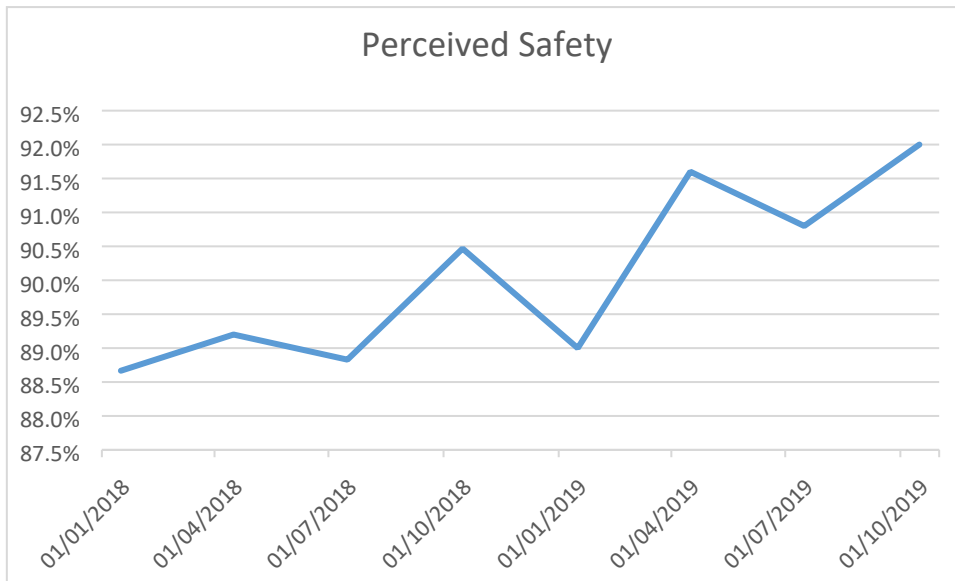
The percentage of the workforce that are BAME has increased again this quarter (by 0.23% points) and continues the strong upward trend. Although this exceeds past performance the ambition is to have a workforce that is representative of the community and so this strong upward trend must continue for some time to ensure this is achieved.

Complaints of incivility this quarter remains unchanged from when last reported and is stable overall.

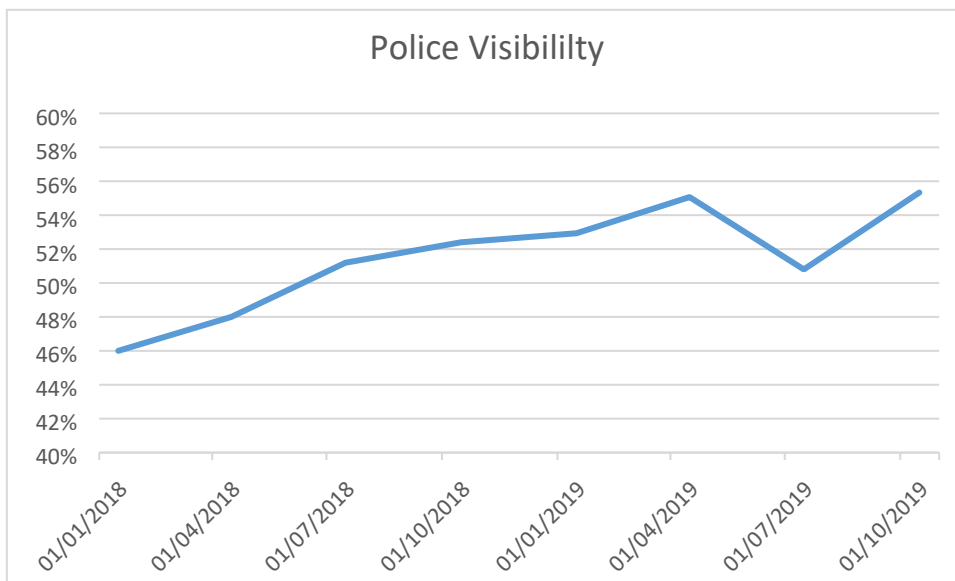
Disproportionality of Stop Search has decreased by 0.5 and this quarter's results have stabilised the trend.

People feel safe

Measure	Current performance	Trend	Grading
Perceived Safety % Feel safe in local area	92.0	Moderate upward trend	Exceeds Expectations
Police Visibility % Agree	55.3	Strong upward trend	<i>Diagnostic</i>



Current perceived safety is above the expected performance range and shows a positive trend; this quarter has increased 0.4% points from last reported. As mentioned above reassurance is the top priority cited by the communities in the local survey.



Police visibility has increased from 46% at the start of 2018 to 55% now and is the same as when last reported. This may be due to an increased focus on enabling officers to spend more time out of stations during routine activity but it could also be due to the small increase in recorded crime over this period.

Appendix 1 – Explanation of measures

Timeliness of attendance – calls to the police are graded based on threat harm and risk. There is a service level agreement (SLA) for each grade which states how long attendance should take (below). It is important to note that the SLAs are defined by the Constabulary, not mandatory, and intended to be challenging rather than having a longer SLA which would have greater compliance.

- Immediate – 15 minutes for urban areas and 20 minutes for rural areas
- Priority High – 1 hour
- Priority Standard – 4 hours

BAME – is Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicity – and used as a high level way of analysing ethnic diversity.

Demand Complexity – this is measure of demand into the police counting the number of incidents (not just recorded crime): each crime has a harm value and non-crime incidents have a value based on how much time that type of incident takes to deal with. This is a much more accurate picture of demand than simply counting crimes or incidents or calls.

Harm score managed offenders – individual offenders are given a harm score based on the amount and type of offending they are known or suspected to have perpetrated. This is the total score for all Impact Managed offenders in Avon and Somerset.

Harm score victims – individual victims are given a harm score based on the amount and type of offending they are known or suspected to have been the victim of. This is the total score for all victims in Avon and Somerset.

Positive Outcome rate – positive outcomes are counted as Home Office defined outcomes 1-8 which are: charge/summons, cautions/conditional cautions for youths or adults, offences taken into consideration, the offender has died, penalty notice for disorder (PND), cannabis/khat warning and community resolution.

Conviction rate – A conviction is an admission or finding of guilt at Magistrates or Crown Court, including both custodial and non-custodial sentences, and is counted based on the offender not the number of offences.

Public Confidence – the national measures are figures taken from the Crime Survey of England and Wales whereas the local measure is data collected from the Avon and Somerset survey; both results are for respondents living within this policing area only. The local measure is more subject to fluctuation because this is reported each quarter in its own right whereas the national measure reports a 12 month rolling average which naturally ‘flattens’ the data line. The national measure only reports a 12 month figure because the number of respondents they survey is smaller and so to remain statistically significant the data must be averaged over this longer time period. There is always lag in receiving the results: the national reporting is about 14 weeks after the end of the quarter and the local will be about 6 weeks after the end of the quarter.

Active Citizenship – this is the % of the population that are either Special Constables, volunteers or cadets.

Disproportionality of Stop Search – this looks at the number of people subject to stop and search, according to two ethnicity categories – white or BAME, as a percentage of the population of those respective categories in Avon and Somerset (based on 2011 Census data). The figure displayed is the ratio of how many times more likely a person is to be stopped if they are BAME compared with if

they are white. An important point of note about the data is that the stop and search data is current but this is being compared to population data from 2011 – in this time period the demographics of the areas will undoubtedly have changed and the actual ratio will be different.

Police Visibility – this is based on the question in the local survey of *when did you last see a police officer or a police community support officer in your local area?* This is percentage of respondents that have seen an officer within the last month (or more recently).

Appendix 2 – Expected Performance Ranges

Measure	Expected Performance Range
999 abandonment rate % of all calls	0.29-0.10
101 abandonment rate % of all calls	5.99-3
Timeliness of attendance of calls graded as <i>Immediate</i> % attended within SLA	76-78.99
Timeliness of attendance of calls graded as <i>Priority High</i> % attended within SLA	52-57.99
Timeliness of attendance of calls graded as <i>Priority Standard</i> % attended within SLA	58-61.99
Positive Outcome rate % of all offences	10-15.99
Conviction rate % of all court cases	83-87.99
Public Confidence (National measure) % agree	75-79.99
Confidence in the Police (Local measure) % agree	70-79.99
Dealing with community priorities % agree	50-59.99
Active Citizenship % of people engaged	9-11.99
Workforce representativeness % BAME	2.6-3.0
Perceived Safety % Feel safe in local area	85-88.99

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AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

4 FEBRUARY 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel with oversight of all complaints made against Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, for scrutiny of the initial handling by the Chief Executive of Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.

BACKGROUND

2. Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) is the Appropriate Authority to handle complaints against the conduct of 'Relevant Office Holders', being Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Deputy PCC if one is appointed, according to statutory regulations of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 and as referred to in the Police Reform and Social Responsibilities Act 2011, section 31 and schedule 7.
3. However, the initial handling, which includes categorisation, recording decision-making, referral of criminal allegations to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), disapplication decision-making, and responding to the complainant in the first instance, has been delegated by the Panel to the Chief Executive in the Office of Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, with scrutiny and oversight of all complaints and any escalation for informal resolution, remaining with the Panel.

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

4. There has been one complaint since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting report against the *conduct* of the Police and Crime Commissioner ('conduct' including acts, omissions, statements and decisions (whether actual, alleged or inferred)).
5. There is one live complaint against the PCC at this time.
6. Please refer to the summary table in Annex 1.
7. All complaints to date have had Panel oversight, including those solely handled by the PCC's Chief Executive Officer.
8. All electronic complaint files are available at the PCC's office for viewing by the Panel, if requested. The document retention period is in accordance with the published Record Retention Policy and this is currently eight years.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COMPLAINTS SYSTEM

Police Integrity Reforms

9. The Home Office has written to all Constabularies and OPCC's to confirm that the legislation will go live on the 1st February 2020.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

10. There are no equality implications arising from the handling of complaints against Avon and Somerset PCC. The protected characteristics of complainants are not necessarily known, and all complaints are logged and published in an open and transparent manner.

RECOMMENDATIONS

11. Members are asked to review and comment on this complaints report and to advise of any recommendations or requests for informal resolution through the statutory process of escalating complaints against the PCC to the Panel.

MARK SIMMONDS – INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT TO: AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Date: 4TH February 2020

No.	Date rcvd / log no.	Summary	Recorded?	Handled by	Outcome	Live or Closed
41.	11/12/2019 25620	Sent directly to the PSD of ASP: Allegations are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Police and Crime Commissioner failed to recognise the severity and associated risk relating to the note left at your address by an officer. 2) The Police and Crime Commissioner's letter to you contained inaccuracies. 3) The difference in presentation of the letter provided by the PCC and ASP. 	Yes	CEO PCP notified	Acknowledged on the 30 th December 2019	Open

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Panel Work Programme 2019/2020

Date PCP Meeting	Business	Notes
26 th June	AGM Procedural Business PCC Annual Report Work Programme – draft for Panel consideration/approval	
27 th September – new member training. Police and Fire Headquarters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roles and responsibilities as Panel Members - statutory duties and the development of shared objectives as a PCP with a refreshed membership. - Fulfilling your strategic roles as councillors and independent members by focusing on the strategic rather than operational matters - How to get the best of the Link Member SP briefings (the Panel’s chosen method of scrutinising delivery of the Police and Crime Plan) by reporting back to the main Panel and Interpreting and using performance data - OPCC slots – John Smith CEO and Asst Chief Constable Steve Cullen. 	Meeting with Frontline 28 th to discuss/finalise programme
8 th October	Mark Simmonds CFO OPCC- Budget Briefing (see below*) Review of Performance reporting mechanism Actions/reports emerging from the AGM Medical Pension review report	Chancellor has announced a one-year spending review to be delivered at the end of September. Significant new money for policing anticipated - details about the allocation of money (and possibly recruitment targets) to each PCC and the timescales involved expected soon after. New money to be derived from government grant or raised from additional council tax precept – to be confirmed.

		Given the significance of these changes to OPCC budget planning, the 15 th November briefing below has been brought forward.
15 th November – Budget Briefing (takes place at Police/Fire Headquarters)	*First consultation on the Budget led by the OPCC Chief Financial Officer. It provides opportunity for the Panel to consider the OPCC's planning assumptions and forecasts ahead of the draft Medium Term Financial Plan presented to the Panel on 11 th December, and the final report to be presented on 4 th February. The session should be attended by all Panel Members.	
11 th December	Scrutiny of the Budget/Draft Medium Term Financial Plan – Separate briefing from the OPCC CFO Crime Unit Performance Report Complaints Sub-Group Report	Video has been made available to Chiefs and PCCs across the South West to show at their respective Police and Crime Panel meetings. Created by the SW Regional Organised Crime Unit, it shows highlights of their work during 2018/19. It has been confirmed that contents are suitable to be shown in public session. Suggest December meeting.
4 th February	Chief Constable – Presentation <i>Qlik Sense Analytics – demonstration (TBC)</i> Formal Review of the Budget and Precept Proposal	Chief Constable presentation – deferred from December
11 th March	Desmond Brown – presentation Lammy Group Objectives (TBC) Representative Workforce Team – report on their work Panel Budget/Costs report Video presentation – Work undertaken by the Regional Organised	Agreed at AGM that Desmond Brown would be invited to a suitable Panel meeting to comment on his role in ensuring delivery of the Lammy Group's key objectives. If possible, this item to sit alongside a presentation on the work of the Representative Workforce team. It was agreed that this should be taken forward outside of the meeting and built into the

		work programme at the appropriate time.
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Standing reports to each meeting:-

- Commissioner's Update Report – report on PCC activities/key decisions. Standing updates on Fire Governance and Estates.
- Work Programme – fluid and presented for noting or approval following amendment
- Link Member reports/Scrutiny of performance against the Police and Crime Plan – Strategic Priorities Quarterly Briefings
- Complaints Report – Monitoring arrangements for dealing with complaints against the Commissioner
A review of the balanced appointment objective will also take place after each set of relevant elections.

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