

HOME OFFICE

Proposals for revised funding allocations for police authorities in England and Wales for 2010/11.

The Minister of State for Policing and Criminal Justice (Nick Herbert): As part of the Government's plan to cut the budget deficit and get the economy moving again, I am today confirming my intention to require the police to make a fair share of the savings needed. I welcome the responsible and constructive way in which policing partners have already responded to the Chancellor's announcement of his plans to reduce the national budget deficit.

Total Home Office cuts will be £367m and in order to minimise the impact on the police service the Home Office will cut a greater than proportionate share of its central budget by bearing down on overheads and reducing waste, including significant cuts to consultancy services, marketing costs and travel. However, the police need to contribute towards the overall reduction and I will therefore ask every Police Authority to make a fair share of savings.

As a result, I intend to reduce this year's core government funding to the police by a total of £125m. I intend to implement this by reducing the Home Office core police settlement and the capital grant. I will, in due course, formally lay before Parliament an amended Police Grant Report for 2010/11 which will be subject to the usual debate and approval process.

Even after this reduction, government funding to the police will still increase by £124m this year to around £9.61 billion. Set out below are updated force allocations for the individual grants which I intend to revise. These have been calculated so that each force will face a cut equivalent to the same percentage of their core government funding.

I am confident that savings of less than 1 per cent of expected spending in 2010/11 by Police Authorities can be made whilst maintaining a frontline policing service. It is for Chief Constables to use their expertise and decide what makes most sense for their force, but I am quite clear that this saving can be achieved by driving out wasteful spending on support functions, reducing bureaucracy and increasing efficiency in key functions - leaving the frontline of policing strong and secure. I expect forces to be held to this by both Police Authorities and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary.

For my part, I am clear that the police should be focused on police work, not paperwork. This is why I am committed to cutting the centrally imposed red tape and bureaucracy that slows police officers down and keeps them off the streets and away from protecting the public.

The Government has shown its commitment to the police service by undertaking to honour the third year of the current pay settlement for police officers. Our programme for government has set out measures to ensure a sustainable frontline police service, including a full review of the remuneration and conditions of service for police officers and staff. We also commit in our programme for government to establishing an independent commission to review the long-term

affordability of public sector pensions, while protecting accrued rights. The Government is determined to ensure that we can provide affordable pensions to public servants into the future.

The Spending Review reporting in the autumn of this year will set funding levels beyond 2010/11.

Figure 1. Proposed new allocations of the Home Office core police settlement by force (subject to Parliamentary approval) and revised allocations of capital grant.

Police Authority	2010/11 HO Police Grant as agreed February 2010	2010/11 Proposed amended HO Police Grant	2010/11 Capital Grant as notified January 2010	2010/11 Amended Capital Grant
	£m	£m	£m	£m
English Shire Authorities				
Avon & Somerset	116.1	113.5	3.3	3.0
Bedfordshire	44.6	43.6	1.3	1.2
Cambridgeshire	52.9	51.7	1.6	1.5
Cheshire	69.9	68.2	2.2	2.0
Cleveland	51.6	50.3	1.6	1.5
Cumbria	35.1	34.1	1.1	1.0
Derbyshire	69.6	68.0	2.0	1.9
Devon & Cornwall	117.0	114.4	3.4	3.2
Dorset	43.5	42.6	1.3	1.2
Durham	47.8	46.5	1.6	1.4
Essex	117.5	114.9	3.2	3.0
Gloucestershire	37.8	36.9	1.2	1.1
Hampshire	130.7	127.8	3.9	3.6
Hertfordshire	81.3	79.5	2.3	2.1
Humberside	72.7	70.9	2.2	2.0
Kent	123.4	120.7	3.5	3.3
Lancashire	116.8	113.9	3.5	3.2
Leicestershire	70.5	68.8	2.1	2.0
Lincolnshire	44.0	43.1	1.2	1.1
Norfolk	55.6	54.3	1.7	1.6
North Yorkshire	49.1	48.0	1.5	1.4
Northamptonshire	47.0	45.9	1.4	1.3
Nottinghamshire	82.7	80.7	2.4	2.2
Staffordshire	73.2	71.5	2.1	2.0
Suffolk	45.5	44.5	1.4	1.3
Surrey	71.5	70.1	2.3	2.1
Sussex	107.6	105.2	3.1	2.9
Thames Valley	157.0	153.6	4.6	4.3
Warwickshire	35.1	34.4	1.5	1.5
West Mercia	74.7	73.0	2.3	2.1
Wiltshire	42.1	41.1	1.3	1.2
Shires Total	2,283.8	2,231.7	67.6	63.1
English Metropolitan Authorities				
Greater Manchester	253.2	246.8	7.4	6.9
Merseyside	142.2	138.4	4.2	3.9

Northumbria	117.4	113.9	4.1	3.8
South Yorkshire	110.2	107.4	3.3	3.1
West Midlands	277.4	270.5	7.9	7.3
West Yorkshire	194.0	189.2	5.6	5.2
Mets Total	1,094.4	1,066.1	32.6	30.1
London Authorities				
GLA - Police	1,169.5	1,141.5	38.4	36.0
City of London	23.3	22.3	1.1	1.0
English Total	4,571.0	4,461.6	139.8	130.3
Welsh Authorities				
Dyfed-Powys	35.2	34.4	1.0	0.9
Gwent	48.6	47.5	1.4	1.3
North Wales	48.5	47.4	1.5	1.4
South Wales	105.5	102.9	3.0	2.8
Welsh total	237.8	232.2	6.9	6.4
TOTAL	4,808.8	4,693.8	146.7	136.7

Note: all allocations rounded to the nearest £0.1m.

Counter Terrorism Policing

In addition to the reduction in core government funding to the police set out above, I intend to reduce resource funding for counter terrorism policing by £10m in 10/11. The Government will nonetheless still be providing £569m to forces through Police Counter Terrorism Specific Grants this year, maintaining 09/10 funding levels.

Counter terrorism policing has benefited from ten consecutive years of significant growth in funding. I will be taking advice from the police on the most appropriate way to find these savings to ensure that the police service retains the necessary capabilities to counter terrorist activity and support our national security.