

Briefing for Police and Crime Commissioner

Topic: OPCVC Finance

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Purpose of briefing

To describe how finance is managed in the OPCVC.

Background

The Office of the Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner (OPCVC) has a separate budget to the Constabulary. The OPCVC budget is £3m and is split £2m for commissioning activities and £1.1m for the Office of the PCVC, which is split between employee costs of approximately £0.85m and other costs of £0.25m.

Current Issues

There is a balanced medium-term financial plan in place covering the short term. However, the key risks are:

- No expected increase in grant funding expect for the police uplift programme. This requires ongoing efficiencies to be made.
- Very limited capital resources with which to fund ongoing investment in ICT, estates and fleet.
- Ongoing increases in demand which requires financial investment.
- A national comprehensive spending review is expected during 2021 which will determine overall police resources for the next 3 years. This level of spending will be set against the national financial position and other relative spending priorities.

A more distant risk relates to the imposition of a new grant funding formula which is unlikely to be introduced before 2023/34.

Decisions Needed

Any decisions are taken at the annual budget setting time or at Commissioning Boards.

Partnership Involvement

The focus of the commissioning budget is to deliver more on a co-commissioned basis. The most successful example of shared funding is for the co-commissioned activity with Durham County Council and Darlington Council for delivery of a service to support victims of domestic abuse. A similar partnership approach exists with the County Durham Community Foundation who contribute to the PCVC Community Safety Fund available for activities run by the local voluntary and community sector.

People to Meet

The OPCVC Chief and Deputy Chief Finance Officers.