



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP-2018-0033, 5 February 2018

Police Grant Report (England and Wales)

Summary

This debate pack has been compiled ahead of the Motion to approve the *Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2018/19* on Wednesday 7 February.

This is how Parliament approves the central police funding allocation for each force every financial year.

The pack contains recent press and trade articles and parliamentary material on the subject.

More detailed information and advice can be provided by our Police funding specialist:

Grahame Allen, x2457

The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

Grahame Allen and
Lukas Audickas

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1. Introduction

The Motion to approve the [Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19](#)¹ on Wednesday 7 February 2018 is how Parliament approves the central police funding allocation for each force.

A provisional settlement for the 2018/19 financial year was published on 19 December 2017² and was accompanied by a Written Statement on the same day.³

The final Police Grant Report for the 2018/19 financial year was published on 31 January 2018⁴ and was accompanied by a Written Statement on the same day.⁵

Previous years' reports are available on the [Gov.uk website](#).

2. Funding in England & Wales

In England and Wales the main source of income for the 43 geographic police forces is central government grant made available through the annual Home Office Police Grant Report. Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) can also raise additional revenue funding through council tax precepts.

For the Metropolitan Police the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is performed by the [Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime](#). Further detail on the budget setting process in London can be found on MOPAC's [Our Finances](#) pages.

For the Greater Manchester Police, the Mayor of Greater Manchester has responsibility for the governance and budgets with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. Further detail on policing in Manchester can be found on the Greater Manchester Combined Authority [website](#).

Background on police funding in England and Wales can be found in the Library Briefing Paper: [Police Funding](#).

2.1 Police Grant Report 2018/19

Direct resource funding for each police force in England and Wales for 2018/19 was announced to the House on the 31 January 2018 in a [Written Statement](#) made by Nick Hurd (The Minister of State for Fire and Policing)⁶. The full Statement is reproduced later in this brief.

¹ Home Office, [Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19](#), HC 745, 31 January 2018

² Home Office, [Provisional Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19](#), 19 December 2017

³ See [HC Deb 19 Dec 2017 HCWS372](#)

⁴ Home Office, [Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19](#), HC 745, 31 January 2018

⁵ See [HC Deb 31 Jan 2018 HCWS439](#)

⁶ [HC Deb 31 Jan 2018 HCWS439](#)

Table 1 (reproduced below) of the tables that accompanied the Written Statement: [Tables - Police Grant Report 2018/19](#), shows that, assuming all Police and Crime Commissioners maximise their precept income (increasing their precept up to the £12 referendum limit in England and £12 in Wales in 2018/19) **total direct resource funding for England and Wales will increase to just over £11.4 billion in 2018/19 from just over £11.0 billion in 2016/17 - a cash rise of 2.5%**:

POLICE GRANT REPORT ENGLAND AND WALES 2018/19 TABLES

Table 1: Provisional change in total direct resource funding compared to 2017/18

PCC	2017/18*	2018/19*	Cash increase	2017 reserves as percentage of funding**	2017 HMIC PEEL Efficiency rating
	£m			%	
Avon & Somerset	273.7	281.8	8.0	14%	Good
Bedfordshire	101.4	104.3	2.9	13%	Requires Improvement
Cambridgeshire	129.8	133.8	4.0	22%	Good
Cheshire	172.4	177.5	5.2	8%	Good
City of London	56.1	57.0	0.9	n/a	Good
Cleveland	123.2	125.4	2.2	12%	Good
Cumbria	100.4	103.0	2.5	24%	Good
Derbyshire	162.7	167.1	4.5	20%	Good
Devon & Cornwall	282.0	290.5	8.5	21%	Good
Dorset	120.5	124.6	4.2	11%	Good
Durham	113.0	115.5	2.4	12%	Outstanding
Dyfed-Powys	96.6	99.7	3.1	27%	Requires Improvement
Essex	267.0	275.9	8.8	8%	Good
Gloucestershire	106.5	109.8	3.3	25%	Good
Greater London Authority	2,510.8	2,553.6	42.9	10%	Requires Improvement
Greater Manchester	545.4	555.8	10.4	15%	n/a***
Gwent	120.9	124.0	3.0	42%	Good
Hampshire	304.5	314.1	9.6	28%	Good
Hertfordshire	182.8	189.0	6.2	23%	Good
Humberside	171.4	175.2	3.8	20%	Requires Improvement
Kent	279.3	288.0	8.7	12%	Good
Lancashire	260.3	266.5	6.1	18%	Good
Leicestershire	170.5	175.1	4.6	17%	Requires Improvement
Lincolnshire	110.6	113.9	3.3	17%	Requires Improvement
Merseyside	307.5	312.7	5.2	10%	Good
Norfolk	148.9	153.2	4.3	17%	Good
North Wales	143.2	147.3	4.0	24%	Requires Improvement
North Yorkshire	140.7	145.1	4.4	12%	Requires Improvement
Northamptonshire	122.0	125.5	3.5	8%	Good
Northumbria	260.1	265.3	5.1	7%	Good
Nottinghamshire	190.5	195.0	4.5	10%	Requires Improvement
South Wales	262.8	269.5	6.7	12%	Good
South Yorkshire	240.7	245.7	4.9	19%	Requires Improvement
Staffordshire	177.7	182.6	4.9	7%	Good
Suffolk	112.7	116.2	3.6	10%	Good
Surrey	210.2	217.7	7.5	7%	Good
Sussex	256.0	264.6	8.6	24%	Good
Thames Valley	376.9	389.6	12.7	14%	Outstanding
Warwickshire	90.8	93.7	2.9	29%	Good
West Mercia	201.2	207.5	6.3	26%	Good
West Midlands	524.4	533.9	9.5	20%	Good
West Yorkshire	408.3	417.2	8.9	22%	Good
Wiltshire	105.0	108.6	3.6	19%	Good
Total England & Wales	11,041.6	11,311.9	270.3	15%	

* Total direct resource funding consists of core grant funding, National and International Capital City Grants (NICCs), Legacy Council Tax Grants, Precept Grant and police precept. These figures reflect actual precept in 2017/18 and assume that PCCs in England increase their precept up to the £12 referendum principles in 2018/19, PCCs in Wales increase their precept by £12, and Office of Budget Responsibility forecast tax base increases.

** Usable resource reserves as at March 2017 as shown in audited statements of accounts for 2016/17 as a percentage of 2017/18 direct resource funding. Greater Manchester reserves are as at 7 May 2017.

*** Greater Manchester did not receive an Efficiency rating in 2017. The rating they received in 2016 was Good.

2.2 Reform of the police funding formula

The Home Office paused police funding formula reform in 2015 following errors made in information shared with Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and forces on the indicative impacts of the Government's proposed funding model.

The Home Affairs Select Committee's 2015 Report [Reform of the Police Funding Formula](#) (HC 476) criticised the original process and made recommendations on future reform.

The [Government's response](#) to the 2015 Report was not received until 8 March 2017. The response stated:

We are currently undertaking a period of detailed engagement with the policing sector and relevant experts on reform of the police funding formula. This Review will provide recommendations which will be considered carefully before reaching decisions on how to proceed. Reforming the formula remains a key priority for this Government. The response emphasises this commitment, to ensure that the future distribution of core grant funding to force areas in England and Wales is based on a fairer, more up-to-date and transparent formula. **Rt. Hon Brandon Lewis MP.**

On 14 September 2016, then Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service, Brandon Lewis wrote to all PCCs setting out the Government's plans for continuing the process of police funding formula reform by launching the Review of the Police Core Grant Distribution Formula⁷.

Brandon Lewis wrote to the Chair of the Home Affairs Committee, Yvette Cooper, stating that "No new formula will be introduced without a public consultation" ([Letter from Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP, Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service, regarding the reform of the police funding formula](#), 6 April 2017) .

It was suggested in the media, early last year (see [Government to U-turn on police funding reform to protect Met budget](#)) that the reforms to the funding formula would not go ahead.

In the Written Statement announcing the publication of the provisional settlement for 2018/19 Nick Hurd stated that: "It is intended that the funding formula will be revisited at the next Spending Review"⁸ due to take place during 2019.

⁷ Home affairs committee, Eight report, [Reform of the Police Funding Formula: Government Response to the Committee's Fourth Report of Session 2015–16](#), appendix 2

⁸ [HC Deb 19 Dec 2017 HCWS372](#)

3. Media

3.1 Articles

[Police funding in England and Wales](#)

Full Fact team, Full Fact, 9 January 2018

['Extra £450m funding' for police in England and Wales](#)

BBC news, 19 December 2017

[Theresa May vowed to protect police funding - then secretly cut their budgets a week later](#)

Andrew Gregory, Mirror, 21 November 2017

[Police 'to give up on minor crimes without major funding increase'](#)

Alan Travis, The Guardian, 14 November 2017

[Amber Rudd lambasts police chiefs over extra funding demands](#)

Vikram Dodd, The Guardian, 1 November 2017

[Police will have to cut specialist teams unless they get more funding, senior officer warns](#)

Martin Evans, The Telegraph. 30 October 2017

[Extra £27.8m funding for Met Police after Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe warns of NHS-style 'rationing'](#)

Pippa Crerar, Evening Standard, 20 February 2017

3.2 Press releases & Announcements

[Mayor sets out reality of Government's dangerous police funding cuts](#)

London Assembly, 9 January 2018

[Fact sheet: Police funding for 2018/19 explained](#)

Home Office, 19 December 2017

Home Office, 19 December 2017 ACTUAL announcement

[Budget lacks any detail to support police funding](#)

Police Federation England and Wales, 22 November 2017

[Budget must set clear direction for police funding](#)

Steve White, Police Federation England and Wales, 21 November 2017

[Minister for Policing launches consultation on police funding reform in England and Wales](#)

Home Office, 21 July 2015

4. Parliamentary Business

4.1 Ministerial Statements

[Police Grant Report \(England & Wales\) 2018/19](#)

31 January 2018, Nick Hurd (The Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service)

[Police funding settlement tables \(PDF Document, 74.34 KB\)](#)

(accompanying tables for the above)

31 January 2018 | Written ministerial statements | HCWS 439

[Provisional Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19,](#)

19 December 2017, Home Office

4.2 Debates

[Police Funding: Bedfordshire](#)

HC Deb 13 Nov 2017

[Community Policing](#)

HC Deb 07 Nov 2017 cc509-533WH

[Police Funding: London](#)

HC Deb 25 Oct 2017 cc109-135WH

[Aggressive Antisocial Behaviour](#)

HC Deb 10 Oct 2017 cc1-23WH

[Security in the UK](#)

HL Dep 10 Jul 2017 c1082-1103 (Part 1 of 2)

[Security in the UK](#)

HL Dep 10 Jul 2017 c257-9 (Part 2 of 2)

[Police Grant](#)

[Motion to approve Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2017–18]

HC Deb 22 February 2017 c1028-1062

[Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\)](#)

[Motion to approve Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2016–17]

HC Deb 10 February 2016 c1586-636

4.3 Parliamentary Questions

[Police: Finance: Written question - 120813](#)

Asked by Ms Nadine Dorries (Mid Bedfordshire) 20 December 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the effectiveness of the Police Funding Formula in recognising the diversity of the crime demands facing different police forces in England and Wales; and if he will make a statement.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 09 January 2018

The 2018/19 settlement follows a period of engagement, with the Minister for Policing and Fire speaking to every force in England and Wales about the demand they face. There are significant demands on the police from the terrorist threat and from more victims of high harm, hidden crimes such as modern slavery and child sexual exploitation coming forward.

This is a strong and comprehensive settlement that will increase funding by up to £450m across the police system for 2018/19. This includes the flexibility for PCCs to increase their funding by up to £270m, which they can use to spend on local priorities. In 2018/19, if the PCC uses their precept flexibility, Bedfordshire will receive £104.3m in direct resource funding, an annual increase of £2.9m. This is £4.8m more than 2015/16.

The Government intends to maintain the protection of a broadly flat police grant in 2019/20 and repeat the same precept flexibility if the police deliver clear and substantial progress on productivity and efficiency. In this context, it is intended that the funding formula will be revisited at the next Spending Review.

[Police: Expenditure: Written question – 110233](#)

Asked by Alex Norris (Nottingham North) 30 October 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of the policing budget was spent on (a) cyber-crime and (b) counter-terrorism in (i) the UK and (ii) Nottinghamshire in each of the last three years.

Answered by: Mr Ben Wallace 06 November 2017

The Government does not direct Police & Crime Commissioners or Chief Constables about the proportion of local funding that should be devoted to different crime types. Decisions on the operational deployment of resources are a matter for Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners, who are held to account by the communities they serve. However, through the National Cyber Security Programme, we invested £117 million under the 2010-15 Parliament to bolster the law enforcement response to cyber-crime, in addition to any funding allocated locally.

The cyber threats we face continue to grow in scale and sophistication. This is why the National Cyber Security Strategy 2016-2021 is supported by £1.9billion of transformational investment.

The Government provides ring-fenced funding for counter-terrorism policing. The level of counter-terrorism police funding is published annually in a Written Ministerial Statement on the Police Grant Report. These figures are set out in the table below.

2015/16*	£564m
2016/17	£640m resource and £30m capital
2017/18	£633m resource and £42m capital

* Prior to 2016/17 no figure was published for CT policing capital.

The Home Secretary has announced a further £24 million for CT policing in 2017-18. For reasons of national security we do not publically disclose the detailed allocation of funding for counter terrorism by force area or by capability.

[South Wales Police: Finance: Written question - 120163](#)

Asked by Stephen Doughty (Cardiff South and Penarth)

18 December 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what additional funding or resources were provided to South Wales Police in connection with the hosting of the 2017 UEFA Champions League Final.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 21 December 2017

Ministers have agreed to provide £1.4m of Special Grant funding for the event. This follows an application from the Police and Crime Commissioner and a review by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services.

[Police: Finance: Written question - 116971](#)

Asked by Louise Haigh (Sheffield, Heeley) 01 December 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her Department's Special Grant Guidance updated on 28 November 2017, whether the Metropolitan Police will be required to fund costs of up to one per cent of that force's budget before receiving her Department's support in relation to the terrorist attacks in 2017.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 06 December 2017

Applications have yet to be received from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime for Special Grant funding in relation to the London terrorist attacks in 2017. When it has been received and assessed by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services a decision will be made on whether to waive any form of contribution from the force.

[Greater Manchester Police: Finance: Written question - 115963](#)

Asked by Louise Haigh (Sheffield, Heeley) 27 November 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her Department's Special Grant Guidance published on 7 October 2015, whether Greater Manchester Police will be required to fund costs of up to 1 per cent of that force's budget before receiving her Department's support in relation to the Manchester Arena terrorist attack of 22 May 2017.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 30 November 2017

The Prime Minister has already indicated the Government will pay for unexpected and additional costs in coping with the attack, which will include all the policing costs sought by the force.

[Police: Finance: Written question - 111193](#)

Asked by Steve McCabe (Birmingham, Selly Oak) 02 November 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assistance she has provided to the police to support the deployment of qualified specialist investigators to tackle domestic abuse, sexual offences and online crime.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 06 November 2017

Police training and guidance are the responsibility of the College of Policing, which has recently launched a sexual offences Special Investigator Development Programme, and has updated its Authorised Professional Practice on domestic abuse and rape. The College has also launched a new training programme developed by the voluntary sector called 'Domestic Abuse Matters' which focuses on improved evidence gathering and understanding of controlling and coercive behaviour. This training is being rolled out across forces.

Through the Police Transformation Fund, the Home Office has also awarded £1.9 million to the College to pilot a new 'licence to practise' which will ensure that only those officers who are qualified to carry out specialist investigations in high risk areas like child protection, are able to do so. And, up to £12.4million has also been awarded for the Digital Policing Programme, including the Digital Evidence Transfer Service. This is designed to allow forces to rapidly transmit the increasing body of digital evidence across the criminal justice system.

[Police: Finance: Written question - 109124](#)

Asked by Louise Haigh (Sheffield, Heeley) 23 October 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she received the latest estimates of Police financial reserves from Police and Crime Commissioner Treasurers.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 26 October 2017

Police and Crime Commissioners had a statutory obligation to publish audited statements of accounts for the financial year 2016-17 by 30 September 2017.

These showed that at 31 March 2017, Police and Crime Commissioners held £1.7bn in usable resource reserves. Total resource reserves remain higher than the £1.4bn held in 2011.

The exact level of reserves is a matter for individual Police and Crime Commissioners, who have a legal duty to set balanced annual budgets and ensure they have adequate reserves.

[Emergency Services Network: Written question - 106960](#)

Asked by Louise Haigh (Sheffield, Heeley) 10 October 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to exercise the provision in the Airwave emergency services contracts to extend the contracts beyond the national shut down target date of 31 December 2019; and what estimate she has made of the monthly cost of exercising that provision.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 20 October 2017

The new Emergency Services Network (ESN) will provide the dedicated teams who work so hard protecting the public and saving lives with the most advanced communications system of its kind anywhere in the world. There will be no risks with public safety and there will be no gap in the emergency services' communications provision. It will ultimately be for the emergency services themselves to confirm they are content with the new ESN service, as the existing Airwave system will continue until transition on to the ESN is completed.

The Airwave network will remain operational until the emergency services have transitioned to using the new Emergency Services Network.

The current agreement with Motorola can be extended equally for a fixed price per region per month. The regional extension price enables the Government to only buy additional Airwave service for those regions requiring the service for longer. In terms of funding of future ASL contract extensions falling to the police service in England and Wales, these decisions will be subject to ministerial consideration at that time as part of the annual police finance settlement.

In respect of costs to police forces I can confirm that the Home Office contributes 75% of the costs of setting up and operating the core network element of ESN to reflect the policing (England and Wales) share of the joint emergency service programme. This share of Core costs is met through a reallocation within the police funding settlement. Police & Crime Commissioners will meet certain local costs, such as new handsets for officers, from their general budgets as they do now.

This is cutting-edge technology, and the Programme has always been clear that it will not take any risks with public safety. The emergency

services will transition when they consider the network ready. Greater clarity on the date ESN will be available is likely to be understood by the end of the year.

The costs of upgrading to the Emergency Services Network and the costs to extend Airwave contracts for the emergency services are available in the public domain at:

<https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Upgrading-emergency-service-communications-the-Emergency-services-Network.pdf>

and

<https://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/b15926/Minutes%20-%20Appendix%201%20-%20Transcript%20of%20Item%205%20Tuesday%2018-Jul-2017%2010.00%20GLA%20Oversight%20Committee.pdf?T=9>

[Police: Finance: Written question - 6358](#)

Asked by Steve McCabe (Birmingham, Selly Oak) 20 July 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 21 April 2017 to Question 70888, what assessment she has made of the effect of changes to funding to police and crime commissioners on police force budgets in regions where revenue from the council tax precept is relatively low in comparison to other regions in England and Wales.

Answered by: Mr Nick 05 September 2017

The 2015 Spending Review looked at police funding, including council tax precept. Since Spending Review 2015, we have provided additional flexibility for the 10 Police & Crime Commissioners in England with the lowest precept bills each year (the lower quartile). These PCCS are able to raise their precept by £5 per Band D household, compared to the usual 2%, without triggering a local referendum.

[Police: Finance: Written question - 6357](#)

Asked by Steve McCabe (Birmingham, Selly Oak) 20 July 2017

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 24 April 2017 to Question 71221, whether the police budget has decreased in real terms since 2010.

Answered by: Mr Nick Hurd 05 September 2017

The police budget decreased in real terms between 2010 and 2015. It was necessary for the Government to address the deficit and it was right that the police contributed to that.

Forces have largely risen to the challenge and demonstrated that it is possible to make efficiencies whilst delivering a high quality service to the public. The Government is sensitive to the needs of policing and protected overall police spending in real terms in Spending Review 2015.

5. Further reading

Home Office, [Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19](#), HC 745, 31 January 2018.

Home Office, [Police financial reserves](#), 31 January 2018.

Home Office, [Provisional Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) 2018/19](#), 19 December 2017.

IFS, [Police Workforce and Funding in England and Wales](#)
R. Dinsey, P. Simpson and J. Payne, 2017

London Assembly, [Police funding - who's paying the Bill?](#), 10 October 2017

Home Office, [Guide to the police allocation formula](#), 26 March 2013.

Commons Library briefings

[Funding for community policing](#) CDP-2017-0212, 3 November 2017
A Westminster Hall debate on Funding for community policing is scheduled for Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 9.30am. The Member leading the debate is Sir Edward Davey MP.

[Police funding in London](#) CDP-2017-0194, 23 October 2017
A Westminster Hall debate on Police funding in London is scheduled for Wednesday 25 October 2017 at 9.30am. The Member leading the debate is Catherine West MP.

[Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) \[2017/18\]](#) CDP-2017-0056, 21 February 2017
This debate pack has been compiled ahead of the Motion to approve the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2017/18 on Wednesday 22 February 2017.
Mervyn Stone, [Police funding: a modest proposal](#), Public Finance, 11 July 2016

[Police Funding](#) CBP 07279, 8 February 2016
This briefing explains the existing funding arrangements for police forces. It focuses on revenue funding for the territorial police forces of the United Kingdom. Police receive separate grants for capital purposes.

[Financial sustainability of police forces in England and Wales](#), National Audit Office, 4 June 2015
Our report examines whether the Department, with other policing stakeholders, has effectively managed the risks of reduced police funding. It is not a contradiction to the government's policy of localism to assess whether a Department has enough information to make good decisions about the level of central funding provided.

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