

# Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex Essex Police Strategic Board

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#### 1 Recommendations

To consider the current Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) position with updated assumptions since the MTFS was last approved as part of 2023/24 budget report to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel and subsequently reported to the March Strategic Board.

# 2 Executive Summary

The MTFS is a service planning and performance management framework which aims to ensure that resources are directed towards achieving delivery of the vision for the next five years and the Police and Crime Plan. The MTFS approved at the February Police, Fire and Crime Panel had a balanced position for 2024/25 compared to the latest forecast deficit of £6.8m. This position assumes that a £3m annual recurring savings target will be achieved and also one-off savings of £2.1m will be delivered to meet one-off cost pressures.

## 3 Background

3.1 A summary of the MTFS approved at the 7th February 2023 Police, Fire and Crime Panel is shown in Table 1 below. The MTFS shortfall over the four-year period of 2023/24 to 2027/28 was forecast to be £10.5m.

Table 1 – MTFS as at February 2023

			Medium Term Financial Strategy 20	23/24 - 202	7/28 - Pred	ept Increa	se 2.5% Ar	nually	
2020/21	2021/22 2	2022/23*		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	5 Year Total
£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
312.8	330.5	365.7	Net Budget Requirement - before appropriations to/from reserves	377.9	382.9	392.3	400.9	409.0	1,963.1
6.7	2.7	(9.8)	Net Appropriations to/(from) Reserves **	(3.3)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(3.3)
319.5	333.2	355.9	Budget Requirement (Inc Appropriations to Reserves) - before Savings & Efficiencies	374.6	382.9	392.3	400.9	409.0	1,959.7
(4.8)	(2.9)	(3.7)	Savings & Efficiencies Plan (Cashable)	(10.9)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(22.9)
314.7	330.3	352.2	Net Budget Requirement - after savings applied	363.6	379.9	389.3	397.9	406.0	1,936.8
(314.7)	(330.3)	(352.2)	Total Funding	(363.7)	(380.0)	(386.9)	(394.1)	(401.7)	(1,926.3)
0.0	0.0	0.0	Annual (Shortfall)/Surplus	0.0	0.0	(2.4)	(3.8)	(4.3)	(10.5)

<sup>\*</sup> Based on month 8 forecast

The balanced position in 2024/25 was based on the following key assumptions:

- 2.5% council tax precept increase;
- Police officers remain at 3,755 FTEs;
- A 2.0% pay increase for Officers and Staff in September 2023 and 2.5% in September 2024;
- A 1.75% increase in taxbase compared to a 1.15% increase in 2023/24;
- A £1.5m surplus on the Collection Fund;
- New recurring cashable savings of £3.0m in each year of the MTFS (PFCC target) and all one-off pressures to be funded by further one-off savings. One-off savings of £2.7m were

<sup>\*\*</sup> The net budget requirement within this table includes expenditure that will be funded from reserves (subject to approval). Assumptions on the usage of reserves for future years is contained within the Reserves table on Tab D of Appendix B.



- included in 2024/25 netted off against the net budget requirement. From this report and onwards one-off savings are separated out to improve transparency; and
- The Home Office police grants will increase in line with the most recent Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) with Essex receiving a share of the grant uplift in line with existing funding share allocations.
- 3.2 The high level summary of the latest MTFS forecast is shown below and the full summary and details are at Appendices A and B.
- 3.3 The table below shows the latest forecast position with a deficit of £6.8m in 2024/25.

			Medium Term Financial Strategy 202	4/25 - 2028	8/29 - Prece	ept Increase	e 2.5% Ann	ually	
2021/22	2022/23	2023/24*		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	5 Year Total
£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
332.0	359.8	378.8	Net Budget Requirement - before appropriations to/from reserves	391.2	400.7	408.7	417.5	421.9	2,040.0
2.7	(3.0)	(2.9)	Net Appropriations to/(from) Reserves **	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.0
334.7	356.8	375.9	Budget Requirement (Inc Appropriations to Reserves) - before Savings & Efficiencies	391.9	401.4	409.2	417.5	421.9	2,042.0
(2.9)	(3.7)	(10.9)	Savings & Efficiencies Plan -Recurring	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(15.0)
(1.5)	(0.9)	(1.3)	Savings & Efficiencies Plan -One-off	(2.1)	(2.6)	(3.0)	(4.3)	(1.4)	(13.3)
330.3	352.2	363.7	Net Budget Requirement - after savings applied	386.8	395.9	403.2	410.3	417.5	2,013.7
(330.3)	(352.2)	(363.7)	Total Funding	(380.0)	(386.9)	(394.1)	(401.7)	(409.5)	(1,972.2)
0.0	0.0	0.0	Annual (Shortfall)/Surplus	(6.8)	(9.0)	(9.1)	(8.6)	(8.0)	(41.5)

3.4 The overall movement for 2024/25 since the March Strategic Board is an increase in the shortfall of £6.8m from the balanced position that was reported.

Table 3 – MTFS Movement since February Police, Fire and Crime Panel

		MTFS MO	VEMENTS	/ SAVING	S ANALYSIS	;
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	5 Year Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Overall (Shortfall) / Surplus - Police Fire & Crime Panel 7.2.23	(0.0)	(2.4)	(3.8)	(4.4)	0.0	(10.5)
Increase/(decrease) to funding gap	6.8	6.5	5.3	4.2	8.0	30.9
Overall (Shortfall) / Surplus - June 21st Strategic Board	(6.8)	(9.0)	(9.1)	(8.6)	(8.0)	(41.4)

This reflects updates for the following areas of the strategy:



- A refreshed assessment of the pay budget requirement for police officers, staff and PCSOs based on May 2023 pay and budget information (increase of £3.1m). This is a refinement on the high level calculation that was previously included and brings the budget requirement closer to that anticipated to be calculated during the pay budget setting process in the autumn of this year. With pay representing 90% of the net revenue expenditure budget of £363.7m, relatively small changes in assumptions can have a significant financial impact. This pressure against budgets can also be seen in the current year forecasts for pay in the month 2 monitoring report.
- Revised estimates on the impact of inflation (reduction of £0.1m) based on the latest information from commands. This includes inflation expected in the areas of IT, Transport, Estates and Business Services.
- Updated revenue costs for borrowing (increase of £0.6m) to fund the capital programme (MRP and Interest) for the period 12 forecast on the capital programme, including approved changes since the December Strategic Board, approved slippage into 2023/24 and a rise in interest rates.
- Early capture of pressures from commands (£1.6m increase) including contractual and legal pressures, growth associated with the Contact Management Target Operating Model and an extension for a further year of detective bonus payments.
- An appropriation to the general reserve in line with the PFCC's reserve strategy (£0.8m increase). The strategy is to hold a general reserve at 3% of net revenue expenditure. The estimated reserve balance at March 24 is 2.8%. The appropriations assumed in the MTFS for 2024/25 would maintain the 2.8% with a rise to 3% by 2025/26. The level of reserve has been impacted by £1.5m of Op Hazel funding not being recovered from the Home Office. If recruitment targets for PUP are exceeded in the current year, as originally planned, there is an opportunity for the reserve to be nearer to 3% in 2024/25, however, the reserve position would also be impacted by any under or overspend in 2023/24.
- An assumption is built into the MTFS that one-off pressures will be funded by one-off savings. With updates from commands on known pressures the level of those that are one-off are less than originally factored into the MTFS and therefore the one-off savings target is reduced by £0.6m. It should be noted that there is still a need to identify savings to close the funding gap. There is a further increase of £0.3m, from the MTFS presented to the panel in February, due to adjustments needed to the opening base budget requirement due to late changes at 2023/24 budget setting impacting on the split between one-off and recurring elements of the budget that had not been reflected in the opening budget requirement for 2024/25 in the MTFS. This has now been corrected in the 2024/25 position presented.
- 3.5 The MTFS is based on numerous assumptions (listed as part of Appendix A) and is used as a forecasting tool. As more information comes to light on factors that impact on the strategy it is updated and reported to COG and Strategic Board.



#### 3.6 Savings and Efficiencies Plan

The MTFS includes a £3m recurring savings target annually and one-off savings each year to cover the costs of one-off pressures which are currently forecast to be £2.1m in 2024/25. Work is progressing through the Efficiency and Savings Board to develop savings plans over the coming months.

#### 3.7 Capital Expenditure and Financing

The forward look on the capital programme will be provided for the next MTFS update report. The 2022/23 outturn position has been reported and the impact of this and how it impacts on future years expenditure and financing has been reflected in the forecast revenue costs of borrowing within this report.

#### 3.8 Reserves

The current forecast on reserves and provisions is shown in Appendix C and summarised in the table overleaf. By 2025/26, revenue reserves are forecast to be £27.8m (£11.7m General Reserve at 3.0% of net revenue expenditure and £16.1m earmarked reserves).

Table 4 – Forecast Reserves and Provisions

	2023/24 (£m)	-	2025/26 (£m)	-	•
Earmarked Revenue Reserves	15.7	15.9	16.1	16.3	16.5
General Reserve	10.2	11.0	11.7	12.2	12.2
GR as % of net revenue expenditure	2.8%	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Total - Revenue Reserves	25.9	26.9	27.8	28.5	28.7

#### 3.9 Budget Setting Timetable

The budget setting timetable for 2024/25 was presented to the March 23 Strategic Board. Since this board an additional date has been formally added to the strategic timetable for engagement with the PFCC to discuss their office budgets. The strategic timetable is appended at Appendix D. A decision report will be presented to the PFCC to formally agree the timetable.

#### 4 Risks and Mitigations

Financial risks that impact on the MTFS and Capital Programme are the availability of future revenue funding and short and long term capital financing resources, both of which are estimated within the MTFS position presented in this report.

#### 5 Links to the Police and Crime Plan

This paper concerns the management of the PFCC and Chief Constable's revenue and capital resources and therefore underwrites all of the priorities and workstreams identified within the Police and Crime Plan.



### 6 Financial Implications

The financial implications are covered within sections 3 of this paper.

# 7 Legal Implications

Provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 set out what the force has to base its budget calculations upon and require the force to set a balanced budget by no later than the 11th March for the following year. The 2023/24 budget has been agreed by the Police, Fire and Crime panel. The 2024/25 budget must be set by no later than 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

## 8 Staffing Implications

None identified for the period of the MTFS.

# 9 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no equality or diversity implications from this report.

# 10 Police Operational Implications

Operational policing requirements are considered throughout the budget setting and MTFS review process.

#### 11 Governance Boards

The MTFS is reviewed on a quarterly basis and presented to each Strategic Board as well as being approved as part of the budget position presented to each February Police, Fire and Crime panel.

#### 12 Future Plans (long-term strategic direction)

Long term strategic plans are reflected in financial terms within the Medium Term Financial Strategy considered in Section 3.

# 13 List of background papers and appendices

See appendices overleaf.

**Medium Term Financial Strategy** 

	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29								Comparison to PF&CP (5 Yr		Comparison to F PF&CP 2024	February Comments on 2024/25 Movement 4/25	Movement Type Ref:
Line Ref.		2023/24 Budget	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	5 Year Total	5 Year Total (r	Change reduction) / increase)	2024/25 (red	Change duction) / increase)	
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
2	Original Budget - Budget Book Net Expenditure (prior year total funding)  Adjustment from prior year activity agreed at Budget Setting	352.2 0.5	363.7 2.1	386.8	(0.8)	403.2 (0.5)	410.3 0.0	1,959.9	1,883.0 2.4	76.9 (2.3)	363.6 1.8	0.0     0.3 Late changes as part of 2023/24 budget setting impacted on the mix of one-off versus recurring budgets which has resulted in the need to amend the opening base budget for 2024/25.	OB PY
3	Opening Budget Requirement	352.7	365.8	386.1	395.1	402.7	410.3	1,960.0	1,885.4	74.6	365.5	0.3	
4	Pay Award	10.4	4.7	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.8	26.6	30.2	(3.6)	4.0	Costings refined based on June 23 pay data and 2024/25 confirmed base budget. Original     2024/25 estimations were high level	PA
5	Pay Progression	2.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	10.0	12.4	(2.4)	2.4	(0.4) Costings refined based on June 23 pay data and 2024/25 confirmed base budget. Original 2024/25 estimations were high level.	PP
8	Pay - Other	(2.4)	4.7	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	6.5	5.5	1.0	2.0	2.8 Costings refined based on June 23 pay data and 2024/25 confirmed base budget. Original 2024/25 estimations were high level.	PO
7	LGPS Persion Shortfall & Auto Enrolment	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.4	(0.8)	0.0	0.0	PS
8	Contractual Inflation	3.4	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	5.9	8.4	(2.5)	2.0	(0.1) Forecast refined based on information available at June 2023.	IN
9	Contractual & Legal	3.0	0.8	1.5	2.2	1.5	1.5	7.6	5.6	2.0	0.4	0.5 Original high level forecast replaced withknown recurring contractual legal pressures.	CL
10	Committed Change (Includes FYE of PUP)	(0.4)	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	5.7	0.4	6.2	0.0	CC
11	Revenue impact of investment	1.6	2.4	2.8	1.0	3.4	0.0	9.5	10.2	(0.7)	1.8	0.6 Updated to include business cases approved since December Strategic Board, slippage approved at Provisional Outturn and increasing interest rates.	RV
12	New Demand & Budget Growth	6.8	2.6	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	7.0	11.2	(4.2)	1.5	1.1 Original high level forecast replaced with known recurring service demand pressures and detective bonus payments.	ND
13	Appropriations to/(from) Reserves	(3.3)	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.0	(3.3)	5.3	0.0	0.8 The PFCC's Reserves Strategy is to hold a general reserve of 3% of NRE. The estimated reserve balance at March 2024 is 2.8%. The contributions assumed will maintain 2.8% for 2024/25 and increase to 3% by 2025/28. The level of the reserve has been impacted by £1.5m of Op Hazel funding needing to be met from reserves in 2022/23.	RS
14	Budget Requirement - before Savings & Efficiencies	375.6	391.9	401.4	409.2	417.5	421.9	2,042.0	1,972.8	69.2	385.7	6.2	
15	Savings - One-off	(1.1)	(2.1)	(2.6)	(3.0)	(4.3)	(1.4)	(13.3)	(13.3)	(0.0)	(2.7)	As forecasts have been refined in June 23 for one-off cost pressures, the target for one-off 0.6 savings to cover them has reduced. Additional savings will still be required if, on the bottom ine, there remains an annual shortfall	SC
16	Savings - Recurring	(10.9)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(15.0)	(22.9)	7.9	(3.0)	0.0	SR
17	Net Budget Requirement	363.7	386.8	395.9	403.2	410.3	417.5	6,015.7	1,936.6	77.1	379.9	6.9	
18	Government Funding	(207.3)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(1,084.8)	(1,075.1)	(9.6)	(217.0)	0.0	GF
19	Council Tax - Base	(143.3)	(154.8)	(161.5)	(168.4)	(175.6)	(183.2)	(843.6)	(803.6)	(39.9)	(154.8)	0.0	СТ
20	Council Tax - Taxbase change	(1.6)	(2.7)	(28)	(2.9)	(3.1)	(3.2)	(14.8)	(13.2)	(1.6)	(2.7)	0.0	СТ
21	Council Tax - Precept increase	(9.9)	(3.9)	(4.1)	(4.3)	(4.5)	(4.7)	(21.5)	(26.7)	5.2	(3.9)	0.0	СТ
22	Collection Fund	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(7.7)	(7.7)	0.0	(1.5)	0.0	CF
23	T otal Funding	(363.7)	(380.0)	(386.9)	(394.1)	(401.7)	(409.5)	(1,972.2)	(1,926.3)	(45.8)	(380.0)	0.0	
24	Annual (Shortfall)/Surplus - Cumulative	0.0	(6.8)	(9.0)	(9.1)	(8.6)	(8.0)	(41.5)	(10.5)	31.2	0.0	6.9	

<sup>\* 5</sup> Years T otals Comparison - compares totals for 2022/23 to 2026/27 as reported at Feb 22 Police, Fire and Crime Panel to totals for 2023/24 to 2027/28 as reported in this MTFS

			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	5 Year Total
			£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Line Ref.	Funding Changes							
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
17	Main Government Cash Funding Increase/(Reduction)	10.9	9.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6
18	Total Government Grant - non specific	10.9	9.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6
19	Council Tax & Collection Fund Cash Funding Increase/(Reduction)	8.9	6.6	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.9	36.2
20	Overall Cash Funding Increase/(Reduction)	21.9	16.3	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.9	45.9
21	Percentage Funding Increase/(Reduction)	6.6%	4.5%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	

Key % Assumptions						
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
Overall change in Home Office grants	0.3%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Increase in Council Tax	6.84%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Change in Taxbase	1.15%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Inflation Recurring - Officers Pay	2.00%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Inflation Recurring - Staff/PSCOs Pay	2.00%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%

	Savings & Efficiencies - Cashable only							
	2023 Bud	- 1	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	5 Year Total
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
28	Savings & Efficiencies Plan (S&EP) - <u>cashable</u> recurring (10	0.9)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(15.0)
29	Savings & Efficiencies Plan (S&EP) - <u>cashable</u> one-off (1	1.1)	(2.1)	(2.6)	(3.0)	(4.3)	(1.4)	(13.3)
30	Annual (Shortfall)/Surplus after cashable S&EP - to be (found) / invested - <u>cashable</u> (	0.0	(6.8)	(9.0)	(9.1)	(8.6)	(8.0)	(41.5)
31	Total S&EP for all <u>cashable</u> savings (12	2.0)	(12.0)	(14.5)	(15.1)	(15.9)	(12.4)	(69.8)

	Medium⊺erm Fina	ncial Strategy 2	2024/25 - 2028/2	9				
Line Ref		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
~	<u></u>	<b>v</b>	_	_	~	¥		~
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
1	Original Budget - Budget Book Net Expenditure (prior year total funding)	352.2	363.7					
1a	Opening Budget Requirement	-		386.8	395.9	403.2	410.3	1,959.9
2	Adjustment from prior year activity agreed at Budget Setting	0.5	2.1	(0.8)	(0.8)	(0.5)	-	0.1
3	Opening Budget Requirement	352.7	365.8	386.1	395.1	402.7	410.3	1,960.0
	Unavoidable Cost Pressures							
4	Pay - Prior Year - Sept Pay Award (increase above rate in opening budget requirement)	7.7	1.7	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	10.7
5	Pay - Sept Pay Award - current year (7 months - Sept to March)	2.7	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	16.0
6	2022/23 Police Uplift - recurring	2.5	-	-	-	-		-
7 8	22/23 Police Officers funded by Precept increase Pay - In Year activity - increments	0.2 2.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	10.0
9	Pay - In Year activity - Turnover (Inc Growth not yet achieved)	(1.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(3.0)
10	Pay - in year activity - Other (Inc. impact on allowances, NI, Pension and Apprenship Levy)	1.7	5.3	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.9	9.5
11	Increase South East Allowance by £500 to £2,500 (22/23) and £3,000 (23/24)	2.1	-	-	-	-		-
12	Change to Employers NI Contributions of 1.25% from 2022/23	(2.5)	-					-
13	LGPS Pension shortfall (Tri-annual Actuarial review)	0.8	-	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
14	Auto Enrolment to Pension schemes	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	-	0.1
15 16	Contractual Inflation & De-flation Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF)	3.4 0.2	1.9 0.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	5.9 0.1
17	Operational and Support contractual and legal cost pressures,	2.0	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.0		4.8
18	including Motor insurance Bank Holiday - Adjustment to Base Budget for increased average daily bank holiday cost		0.2				1.0	0.2
19	Total Unavoidable Cost Pressures	22.2	14.3	10.1	10.3	9.9	10.1	54.7
	New Investment & Service Demand Changes							
20	New investment - Recurring	0.7		-	-	-		-
21 22	PUP Ring Fenced Grant Change from Prior Year Increases of less than £10k on non-pay budgets	(3.1)	6.2 0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	6.2 0.5
23	Service demand changes including Estates Services restructure	2.8	1.3	-	-	-		1.3
24	Annual appropriation into a new Insurance Reserve	0.2	_	_	_	_		
25	Borrowing Requirement - interest charges	0.1	1.2	0.6	0.4	0.7	-	2.8
26	Borrowing Requirement - Minimum Revenue Requirement (MRP)	0.1	0.5	1.3	0.2	0.3	-	2.3
27	Capital Programme (Approved) - Revenue Consequences	0.6	(0.4)	_	(0.4)	(0.4)	-	(1.1)
28	Capital Programme (Proposed) - Revenue Consequences	0.2	0.2	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.0)	-	0.0
29	PFCC - Investment Bids	0.4	0.5	-	0.1	-		0.6
30	Total New Investment	2.1	9.6	2.0	0.3	0.6	0.1	12.6
31	One-off Costs							
32 33	Capital Programme (Approved) - One-off revenue costs Capital Programme (Proposed) - One-off revenue costs	0.4 0.2	0.9 0.1	0.8 0.0	0.9 0.0	2.8 0.0	-	5.4 0.1
34	Bank Holiday's - one-off	0.5	(0.3)	-	0.7	-	-	0.1
35	Contractual and legal cost pressures - one-off	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.1
36 37	Service Demand Changes - one-off  New Investment - One-Off	(0.1) 0.6	0.2 0.5	0.9 0.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	3.8 0.8
38	In-year only savings (required to fund One-off Costs)	(1.1)	(2.1)	(2.6)	(3.0)	(4.3)	(1.4)	(13.3)
39	Subtotal of One-off Costs	0.8	(0.7)	-	-	-	-	(0.7)

	Medium Term Fir	nancial Strategy 2	2024/25 - 2028/2	29				
Line Ref		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
	<u> </u>	·   •	~	~	~	~	<b>v v</b>	~
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
40	Appropriations To/(From) Earmarked Reserve							
41 42	Appropriation to/(from) Earmarked Reserves Appropriation to Major Incident Reserve - one off	(0.2)	-	-	-	-		-
43	Appropriation to wap incident Reserve - one on Appropriations To/(From) Earmarked Reserves	(0.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-
44 45	Appropriations To/(From) General Reserve Appropriation (from) /to General Reserve - One Off	(3.1)	0.8	0.8	0.5	-	-	2.0
46	Appropriations To/(From) General Reserve	(3.1)	0.8	0.8	0.5	-		2.0
47	Total Appropriations To/(From) Reserves	(3.3)	0.8	0.8	0.5	-	-	2.0
48	One-off expenditure balance from short term funding	(2.5)	0.1	0.8	0.5		-	1.3
49	Budget Requirement - before Savings & Efficiencies	374.6	389.8	398.9	406.2	413.3	420.5	2,028.7
50 <b>51</b>	Savings & Efficiencies Plan (S&EP) - <u>cashable</u> Net Budget Requirement	(10.9) 363.7	(3.0) 386.8	(3.0) 395.9	(3.0) 403.2	(3.0) 410.3	(3.0) 417.5 -	(15.0) 2,013.7
31	Funding		000.5		700.2	410.0	11.5	2,010.7
52	Home Office Police Grant HO Police Grant	(127.2)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(547.4) -
53	Total Home Office Police Grant	(127.2)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(136.8)	(136.8) -	(547.4)
54	Home Office Formula Grant HO Formula Grant	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(334.9)
55	Total Home Office Formula Grant	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(67.0)	(334.9)
56	Other Non Specific Grants Council Tax Freeze Grant 2011/12	(2.1)	(2.1)	(2.1)	(2.1)	(2.1)	(2.1)	(10.7)
57	Council Tax Tiesze Grant 2017/12	(11.0)	(11.0)	(11.0)	(11.0)	(11.0)	(11.0)	(55.0)
58	Total Specific Grants	(13.1)	(13.1)	(13.1)	(13.1)	(13.1)	(13.1)	(65.6)
59	Government main grants	(207.3)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(1,084.8)
60	Total Government Funding	(207.3)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(217.0)	(1,084.8)
	Council Tax Requirement							
61 62	Council Tax - Base Council Tax - Taxbase change	(143.3) (1.6)	(154.8) (2.7)	(161.5) (2.8)	(168.4) (2.9)	(175.6) (3.1)	(183.2) (3.2)	(843.6) (14.8)
63 64	Council Tax - Precept increase  Total Council Tax Requirement	(9.9) (154.8)	(3.9) (161.5)	(4.1) (168.4)	(4.3) (175.6)	(4.5) (183.2)	(4.7) (191.1) -	(21.5) (879.8)
65	Total Resource Funding (Gov. grants and Council Tax)	(362.2)	(378.4)	(385.4)	(392.6)	(400.1)	(408.0)	(1,964.5)
						, ,		
66	Council Tax - (Surplus)/Deficit on Collection Fund	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(6.1)
67 68	Total Funding Annual (Shortfall)/Surplus - Cumulative	(363.7)	(380.0)	(386.9) (9.0)	(394.1) (9.1)	(401.7) (8.6)	(409.5) (8.0)	(1,972.2) (41.5)
							` '	
69 70	Main Government Cash Funding Increase/(Reduction) Total Government Grant - non specific	10.9 10.9	9.6 9.6	-	-	-		9.6 9.6
71 72	Council Tax Funding Increase/(Reduction)	8.9 2.1	6.6	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.9	36.2
73	Collection Fund Increase/(Reduction) Overall Cash Funding Increase/(Reduction)	21.9	16.3	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.9	45.9
74	Percentage Funding Increase/(Reduction)	6.6%	4.5%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	

	A. Key % Assumptions						
		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
75	Change in Home Office Police Grant	absolute figure	absolute figure	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
76	Change in Home Office Formula Grant	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
77	Change in Council Tax Support and Freeze grant	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
78	Change in Government main grants (Includes PUP Non-ringfenced)	0.3%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
79	Change in Home Office Pension Grant	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
80	Increase in Council Tax	6.84%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.5%	2.5%
81	Change in Taxbase	1.15%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
82	Inflation Recurring - Officers Pay	2.0%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
83	Inflation Recurring - Staff/PSCOs Pay	2.0%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
84	Inflation - Non pay - various as only specific contractual inflation is used	. There is no	general inflation	1.			

**Medium Term Financial Strategy** Appendix C - Reserves

Reserves - Opening a	nd Closing	Balances																		
	2023/24 2024/25						2025/26 2026/27						2027/28							
Reserve	1st April 2023 - Opening Balance	Budget Setting Contribution / (Allocation) 2023/24	In-Year Contribution /(Allocation) 2023/24	Forecast Year End Balance - 31st March 2024	1st April 2024 - Opening Balance	Budget Setting Contribution / (Allocation) 2024/25	In-Year Contribution /(Allocation) 2024/25	Forecast Year End Balance - 31st March 2025	1st April 2025 - Opening Balance	Budget Setting Contribution / (Allocation) 2025/26	In-Year Contribution /(Allocation) 2025/26	Forecast Year End Balance - 31st March 2026	1st April 2026 - Opening Balance	Budget Setting Contribution / (Allocation) 2026/27	In-Year Contribution /(Allocation) 2026/27	Forecast Year End Balance - 31st March 2027	1st April 2027 - Opening Balance	Budget Setting Contribution / (Allocation) 2027/28	In-Year Contribution /(Allocation) 2027/28	
Reserves held by Essex Police	е																			
Op Dagenham Maintenance Reserve	£0.101m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.101m	£0.101m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.101m	£0.101m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£0.101m	£0.101m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.101m	£0.101m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0
Total	£0.101m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.101m	£0.101m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£(												
Ringfenced Reserve																				
Proceeds of Crime Act	£1.696m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£1.696m	£1.696m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£1.696m	£1.696m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£1.696m	£1.696m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£1.696m	£1.696m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£
Forfeiture Monies Reserve	£0.414m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.414m	£0.414m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.414m	£0.414m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£0.414m	£0.414m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.414m	£0.414m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£
Restructuring Reserve	£0.963m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.963m	£0.963m	£0.000m	£0.000m	ŧ												
Transformation Reserve	£2.347m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£2.347m	£2.347m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£2.347m	£2.347m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£2.347m	£2.347m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£2.347m	£2.347m	£0.000m	£0.000m	:
Legal Reserve	£0.836m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.836m	£0.836m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.836m	£0.836m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£0.836m	£0.836m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.836m	£0.836m	£0.000m	£0.000m	
PEQF Reserve	£0.298m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.298m	£0.298m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.298m	£0.298m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£0.298m	£0.298m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.298m	£0.298m	£0.000m	£0.000m	
Restricted Grant and Contributions Reserve	£0.436m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.436m	£0.436m	£0.000m	£0.000m													
Insurance Reserve	£0.000m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£0.200m	£0.200m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£0.400m	£0.400m	£0.200 m	£0.000m	£0.600m	£0.600m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£0.800m	£0.800m	£0.200m	£0.000m	
Total	£6.991m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£7.191m	£7.191m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£7.391m	£7.391m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£7.591m	£7.591m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£7.791m	£7.791m	£0.200m	£0.000m	
Operational Reserves																				
Major Operational Reserve	£1.500m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£1.500m	£1.500m	£0.000m	£0.000m													
Chief Constables Operational C/Fwd	£0.650m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.650m	£0.650m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.650m	£0.650m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£0.650m	£0.650m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£0.650m	£0.650m	£0.000m	£0.000m	
Future Capital Funding	£1.001m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£1.001m	£1.001m	£0.000m	£0.000m													
Total	£3.151m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£3.151m	£3.151m	£0.000m	£0.000m													
PFCC Reserves																				
Commissioning Grants 2020/21 to 2021/22	£5.258m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£5.258m	£5.258m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£5.258m	£5.258m	£0.000 m	£0.000m	£5.258m	£5.258m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£5.258m	£5.258m	£0.000m		ļ
Total	£5.258m	£0.000m	£0.000m	£5.258m	£5.258m	£0.000m	£0.000m													
General Reserve General Reserve	£13.394m	(£3.145m)	£0.000m	£10.249m	£10.249m	£0.000m	£0.750m	£10.999m	£10.999m	£0.000m	£0.750m	£11.749m	£11.749m	£0.000m	£0.500m	£12.249m	£12.249m	£0.000m	£0.000m	ş
Total Revenue Reserves	£28.895m	(£2.945m)	£0.000m	£25.950m	£25.950m	£0.200m	£0.750m	£26.900m	£26.900m	£0.200m	£0.750m	£27.850m	£27.850m	£0.200m	£0.500m	£28.550m	£28.550m	£0.200m	£0.000m	£

Strategic - Buget Setting Timetable 2024/25 **Budget Version** Category of Activity Responsible Activity **Activity Owner** Ref Description Team Date Strategic COG - MTFS Update Corporate Debbie Martin Wed-14-Jun MTFS (Q1 based on Month 1) Finance presented to COG. Police, Fire & Crime PFCC PFCC Presentation of Budget Setting Paper ST8 Strategic Thu-15-Jun Panel Meeting describing activities and process/timetable for budget setting Strategic Board - June Corporate Review of MTFS (Q1) presented to ST9 Strategic Debbie Martin Thu-22-Jun Strategic Board (based on report Finance presented to COG on 14th June). Draft paper to be circulated to PFCC Office 13th June. Timetable distributed Corporate Budget Setting Timetable ST10 Strategic Annette Chan Fri-23-Jun to Budget Holders Finance distributed to Budget Holders Format to be agreed. Will form basis ST11 Strategic Police, Fire & Crime Corporate Debbie Martin Mon-04-Sep Panel Meeting paper of papers going to Police, Fire & Finance Info to the PFCC Crime Panel 28th September ST12 Strategic Meeting with PFCC Corporate Debbie Martin / Janet Fri-08-Sep Meeting to discuss MTFS going to S151 Officer re MTFS Finance Perrv Sept Strategic Board ahead of COG 02 report being finalised ST13 Efficiency Savings and Strategic Overall Consolidated Growth Strategic Anna Hook Tue-12-Sep Growth Board Change Programme (with recommended scalable areas) and savings proposals from commands prior to 7P Assessment agreed for inclusion in the next stage of the budget setting process. Paper deadline for MTFS (Q2 based COG - Paper Deadline Corporate Debbie Martin Wed-13-Sep ST14 Strategic on month 5) report to COG on 21st Finance ST15 Strategic Police, Fire & Crime PFCC Janet Perry Wed-13-Sep Papers will be based on June Panel Meeting paper Strategic Board position deadline ST16 Strategic COG - MTFS. Corporate Debbie Martin Wed-20-Sep Update of MTFS (Q2 based on Investment and Finance Month 5) presented to COG with highlevel view of Investment and Savings Update Savings. Would include latest position submitted for Efficiency. Savings and Growth Board on 12th ST17 Strategic PFCC Engagement -Corporate PFCC/CC Harrington / Thu-21-Sep MTFS latest position. Discussions Meeting (Sept) Finance DCC Prophet / Debbie will be based on Sept 23 Strategic Martin/ Janet Perry Board Paper submission September Strategic Debbie Martin Send Draft MTFS paper (Q2 based on ST18 Strategic TBC Corporate Board - Paper Month 5) to PFCC for Strategic Finance Deadline Board. An Updated paper may be required following consideration by COG on 21st September Review of MTFS (Q2) presented to ST19 Strategic Strategic Board - Sept Corporate Debbie Martin Tue-26-Sep Strategic Board (based on report presented to COG on 20th Sept). ST20 Strategic Police Fire & Crime PFCCs Office PFCCs Office Thu-28-Sep Based on June Strategic Board position. Panel

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Ref	Activity	Description	Team	Activity Owner	Date	- Z <sup>r</sup> - Z	3.00	A.OE S	, e. e.	Comments
ST21	Strategic	SCCB (Extraordinary Budget Setting Meeting)	Force Commands/Stra tegic Change	Chief Officers / Anna Hook	Thur-12-Oct					Extraordinary Budget Setting SCCB - Review of conso lidated Investment (Other), organisational change business cases (some may require subsequent COG approval) and Capital Investment.
ST22	Strategic	Draft Budget (Exc Pay)	Corporate	Annette Chan	Fri-13-Oct					First draft of budget model
		sent to CFO	Finance							consolidating current growth and savings (excluding pay budgets) provided to CFO
ST23	Strategic	COG - Paper Dead line		Debbie Martin	Fri-13-Oct					Paper deadline for COG Budget
			Finan ce							Workshop 1 or 2. (Revenue + Capital Bids, savings and MTFS - Excludes Pay)
ST24	Strategic	Meeting with PFCC S151 Officer for PFCC Engagement Meeting	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Janet Perry	Mon-16-Oct					Meeting with PFCC S151 Officer for PFCC November Budget Workshop (Excluding Pay)
ST25	Strategic	COG - Budget	Corporate	Debbie Martin /	Wed-18-Oct					COG Budget Workshop (1 of 2) –
		Workshop 1 (exc. Pay)	Finance	Annette Chan						review of provisional Capital & Revenue investment, savings and MTFS. Pay budgets not included.
ST26	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - send papers	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Annette Chan	Thu-19-Oct					Send update of Capital & Revenue Budget investment, MTFS and savings report to PFCCs Office for Engagement Meeting (Post COG Workshop)
ST27	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - Meeting (Oct)	Corporate Finance	PFCC/CC Harrington / DCC Prophet / Debbie Martin/ Janet Perry	Thu-26-Oct					Meeting with PFCCs Office to review a précis of Capital & Revenue investment, savings and MTFS. Attended by DCC & CC Post COG Workshop
ST28	Strategic	Chancellors Autumn Budget Statement	N/A	N/A	W/C 23rd Oct (estimated)					Last Year's Autumn Statement was 27th October
ST29	Strategic	Provision of Papers to PFCC Office for the PF&CP Budget Working Group	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin	Thu-26-Oct					Format to be agreed. Will form basis of papers going to Budget Working Group (1) on 9th Nov
ST30	Strategic	Meeting with PFCC S151 Officer for PFCC November Workshop	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Janet Perry	Wed-01-Nov					Meeting with PFCC S151 Officer for PFCC November Workshop (Excluding Pay)
ST31	Strategic	Provision of Papers to panel working group	PFCCs Office	Janet Perry	Thu-02-Nov					Papers based on Sept Strategic Board. Format of papers to be determined.
ST32	Strategic	Draft Budget (inc Pay) sent to CFO	Corporate Finance	Annette Chan	Thu-02-Nov					Second draft of budget (incorporating pay budgets) provided to CFO
ST33	Strategic	Efficiency, Savings and Growth Board	Corporate Finance	CFO/Chief Accountant	Tue-07-Nov					Verbal budget update to Efficiency, Savings and Growth Board
ST34	Strategic	Police Fire & Crime Panel Budget Setting Working Group (1)	PFCCs Office	PFCCs Office	Thu-09-Nov					

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Ref	Category of Activity	Activity Description	Responsible Team	Activity Owner	Date	June Stroke	of Strate COS W	Dec State	ost HOFE Police Fr	Comments
ST35	Strategic	COG - Paper Deadline		Debbie Martin	Wed-08-Nov	, , , , ,	3	A. S.	Wo	per deadline for COG Budget orkshop 2 or 2. (Consolidated dget proposals with Pay)
ST35a	Strategic	Review of PFCC Budgets (including Pay)	Corporate Finance / PFCC Office	Annette Chan	Tue-14-Nov				Op rev cal rec	portunity for PFCC office to view the detailed make-up of culated 24/25 budget uirement including pay budget tting.
ST36	Strategic	Provision of Papers to PFCC Office for the PF&CP Budget Working Group	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin	Wed-15-Nov				Wo aft	pers provided for 23rd November orking Group based on position er COG Workshop 1. Format to be reed
ST37	Strategic	COG - Budget Workshop 2 (inc Pay)	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin/Annette Chan	Wed-15-Nov				par & F M1	G Budget Workshop (2 of 2 inc. y) – review of provisional Capital Revenue investement, savings and IFS. Includes pay and allocation officer overtime budgets
ST38	Strategic	Provision of Papers to panel working group	PFCCs Office	Janet Perry	Fri-17-Nov					
ST39	Strategic	Business Community Consultation	PFCC	Darren Horsman	Nov (closing in December)				pre	CC has a duty to consult on the ecept. Date not set but held as a acce holder
ST40	Strategic	Meeting with PFCC S151 Officer for PFCC Engagement Meeting	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Janet Perry	Tue-21-Nov				me	eeting ahead of engagement seting with PFCC on 29th svember. (Including Pay)
ST41	Strategic	Police Fire & Crime Panel Budget Setting Working Group (2)	PFCCs Office	PFCCs Office	Thu-23-Nov					
ST42	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - send papers for Nov meeting	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Annette Chan	Thu-23-Nov					pers based on latest position cluding pay)
ST43	Strategic	Police Fire and Crime Panel Meeting - Paper Deadline		PFCCs Office	ТВС					
ST44	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - Meeting (Nov)	Force	PFCC/ CC Harrington / DCC Prophet / Debbie Martin/ Janet Perry					dis	CC & Chief Constable meeting to cuss latest budget setting sition.
ST45	Strategic	Strategic Board - Send Chief Constable Budget Proposal	Corprate Finance	Debbie Martin	ТВС					aft Budget Proposal sent to PFCC fice (PM)
ST46	Strategic	Police Fire and Crime Panel Meeting	PFCCs Office	PFCCs Office	Thu-07-Dec					
ST47	Strategic	Circulation of Growth and Investment Bids included in the Draft Budget to Budget Holders	Corporate Finance	Annette Chan	Fri-08-Dec				cle bu en	culated for information and with ar communication that the dget is still subject to PFCC gagement and approval at the b Police, Fire & Crime Panel

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Ref	Category of Activity	Activity Description	Responsible Team	Activity Owner	Date	June Street Con Sec.	School Book Make Hop	ee Grateric Board	O Funding	different comments
ST48	Strategic	COG - Review of Budget Letter	Corporate Finance / Strategic Change	Debbie Martin / Anna Hook	Wed-13-Dec					COG review first draft of budget letter
ST49	Strategic	Strategic Board (Dec)- Budget Proposals & Officer Investment (Prior to HO Funding Announcement)	Strategic Change	Debbie Martin / Anna Hook	Thu-14-Dec					Strategic Board - Chief Constable presents Budget Proposals in cluding Officer investment (Prior to HO Funding Announcement)
ST50	Strategic	Home Office Funding Announcement	N/A	N/A	15/12/2023 - Estimated					
ST51	Strategic	COG Paper Deadline for -Chief Constable's Budget Proposal		Debbie Martin	Mon-18-Dec					DM to co-ordinate with input from Strategic Change and Chief Officers. Letter to be finalised for COG virtual review on 19th Dec.
ST52	Strategic	Update Capital for Stage 2 Approvals at the December Strategic Board (Capital Programme/Rev Cons/Revenue cost of financing)		Matt Tokley	W/C 18-Dec					Capital position will require updating to feed into budget proposal going to COG Virtual on 19th December
ST53	Strategic	COG Virtual: Review Chief Constable's Budget Proposal to PFCC (Post HO announcement)	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin	Tue-19-Dec					Review of Budget post HO Funding Announcement
ST54	Strategic	PFCC Engagement Meeting - Paper Deadline (Notification of changes following COG Virtual review)	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin	Tue-19-Dec					
ST55	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - Meeting (Dec)	Chief Constable	PFCC/ CC Harrington / DCC Prophet / Debbie Martin/ Janet Perry	Wed-20-Dec					MTFS/Budget Setting Review post Home Office Funding Announcement (inc adherence to Police, Fire and Crime Plan)
ST56	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - send papers	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Annette Chan	Tue-02-Jan					Send latest budget setting position to PFCCsOffice for Engagement Meeting. Include updatesfrom Dec Engagement meeting
ST57	Strategic	Results from precept survey	PFCCs Office	Darren Horsman	Ja n					
ST58	Strategic	PFCC Engagement - Meeting (Jan)	Chief Constable	PFCC/ CC Harrington / DCC Prophet / Debbie Martin/ Janet Perry	Fri-05-Jan					Chief Constable meets with PFCC to discuss Chief Constable's Budget letter
ST59	Strategic	COG - Final review of Chief Constable's budget proposal letter	COG	COG Members	Wed-10-Jan					COG: Final review of Chief Constable's budget proposal letter post HO funding announcement. (Virtual) - to include Appendicies with subjective summary
ST60	Strategic	PFCC receives final budget proposal letter	Corporate Finance	Debbie Martin / Annette Chan	Fri-12-Jan					Budget Proposal letter sent to PFCC from Chief Constable (With Supporting Appendicies inc. Subjective Summary)

