

Decision Application WPCC20067

Reserves Strategy 2019/20

Application Date:	02.04.2019	Name of Applicant:	Elizabeth Hall
			Treasurer
			Chief Finance
			Officer

Application Decision Reference:

WPCC20067

1. Summary of the application

The Commissioner is asked to approve the Reserves Strategy for 2019/20.

2. Background information:

The Reserves Strategy provides information on the estimated levels of reserves currently held and explains how some of these will be applied over the next three years to help support the revenue budget and capital programme, fund the Transformation Programme, ensure the PCC and Chief Constable meet statutory responsibilities, manage critical risks and contribute towards key strategic initiatives.

In the written statement that accompanied the Provisional Police Grant report on 19th December 2017, the Minister stated "You may be aware that police reserves currently stand at around £1.6bn, which compares to £1.4bn in 2011. We will be changing guidance to PCCs to ensure that police officers and the public have access to more detailed information on how PCCs intend to use this public money". The Home Office published detailed guidance on 31st January 2018. This report complies with the Ministerial requirement.

The first reserves strategy (for 2018/19) was approved in September 2018. This has been updated and amended to reflect current challenges. The 2019/20 reserves strategy was set out in the 2019/20 budget report and Medium Term Financial Plan. The actual and forecast position on reserves is reported monthly to the PCC. The reserves strategy is attached and will be published on the Police and Crime Commissioner's website.

3. Whether additional information/report is attached to support this decision application
YES
List of additional information/report
a) The Reserves Strategy 2019/20 – 2021/22 is attached
4. Expected benefits (non financial)
The Reserves Strategy provides information on the estimated levels of reserves currently held and explains how some of these will be applied over the next three years to help support the revenue budget and capital programme, fund the Transformation Programme, ensure the PCC and Chief constable meet statutory responsibilities, manage critical risks and contribute towards key strategic initiatives. This will support the implementation of the Police and Crime Plan.
This strategy will meet Ministerial requirements and comply with Home Office Guidance.
5. Impact of not approving the application
Failure to comply with Home Office Guidance
6. Costs
The Reserves Strategy sets out the deployment of reserves of £5.096m to support the revenue budget and fund strategic initiatives over the next three years (2019/20 – 2021/22)
The Reserves Strategy sets out the deployment of reserves of £2m to support the capital programme over the next three years (2019/20 – 2021/22)
7. Savings:
As above
8. Equality and Diversity Implications:
None
9. Treasurer's comments

The Police and Crime Commissioner will hold reserves of £18.134m as at 1 April 2019. These included General reserves of £5.0m, Earmarked Reserves of £13.134m and Capital reserves of £0.0m. The reserves strategy sets out plans to deploy £7.096m of these reserves over the next three years.

10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments

This Reserves Strategy complies with the guidance "Police Finance Reserves Guidance" published by the home Office on 31st January 2018.

Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner

PCC Signature:

Date of Decision: