



Report to the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel - West Midlands Police and Crime Panel Expenditure 2024-25 and Budget 2025-26

Date: 28 July 2025

Report of: Tom Senior, Acting Lead for Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer, Dudley MBC, Lead Officer of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

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1 Purpose

1.1 The Home Office provides a grant to maintain the Police and Crime Panel. This annual report sets out the expenditure of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel for the financial year 2024–25 and presents the forecast budget for 2025–26.

2 Recommendation

2.1 The Panel is asked to note the expenditure for 2024-25 associated with the administration of the Panel and provide any comment regarding the forecast for 2025-26.

3 Background

3.1 In establishing Police and Crime Panels, the Home Office agreed that a limited grant would be provided to each Local Authority acting as the Host Authority to provide administrative and management support in maintaining the Police and Crime Panel. In the West Midlands, Birmingham City Council is the host authority.

3.2 The Panel's Arrangements, agreed with the Home Office in July 2013, state that:

The annual costs associated with the operation, organisation and administration of the Panel shall be offset by the Home Office grant to be managed by the Host Authority. All of the relevant costs incurred by the Host Authority in connection with the work of the Panel shall be met from the funding allocated by the Home Office unless the Authorities

agree otherwise. The Host Authority shall monitor all expenditure incurred and make provision for an annual report.

4 Home Office Grant and Expenditure 2024-25

- 4.1 The maximum amount which can be claimed from the Home Office in the financial year 2024-25 is £67,100.
- 4.2 Appendix 1 provides a breakdown of the total expenditure of £66,952.44 for the year 2024-25. Birmingham City Council has submitted mid-year and end of year claims for this expenditure in line with the Grant Agreement for this Home Office funding stream.

5 Home Office Grant and Proposed Expenditure 2025-26

- 5.1 The Home Office grant for 2025–26 has not yet been confirmed but is expected to be consistent with previous years.
- 5.2 Appendix 2 outlines the proposed forecast expenditure for 2025–26.

6 Transparency

- 6.1 Under the Home Office grant agreement, Police and Crime Panel's must publish expenditure details on their website. This information [is published on the Panel website](#)

7 Ongoing Home Office Funding

- 7.1 No commitment has been made for future years at this stage.

8 Finance Implications

- 8.1 The administration and activities the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel is funded solely through the Home Office Grant.
- 8.2 This grant is renewed on an annual basis and managed in accordance with the terms of the grant agreement.
- 8.3 Member-related expenses (travel and carer claims) are managed in line with [Birmingham City Council's Member Expenses Scheme](#)

9 Legal Implications

- 9.1 A Police and Crime Panel must be maintained to carry out scrutiny functions and responsibilities as set out in the [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011](#).
- 9.2 A Grant Agreement between Birmingham City Council (Host Authority) and the Secretary of State for the Home Department sets out the legally binding terms and conditions which apply to providing the grant and its use to maintain a Police and Crime Panel.

10 Equalities Implications

10.1 The Panel has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

10.1.1 eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;

10.1.2 advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

10.1.3 foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

10.2 There are no specific equalities implications arising from this report

11 Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 – Home Office Grant and Expenditure 2024-25

11.2 Appendix 2 – Police and Crime Panel Forecast Expenditure 2025-26

12 Background Information

- Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011
- Grant agreement between Secretary of State for the Home Department and Birmingham City Council for the Police and Crime Panel Grant for the 2024-25 financial year.

WMPCP Home Office Grant Claim and Expenditure 2024-25

Budget Category	Spend (£)
Panel administration (1)	63,091.76
Member Expenses (2)	00.00
Panel Meeting Expenses (3)	1237.53
Allowances (4)	2623.15
Total Home Office Claim	£66,952.44

Notes on expenditure 2024-25:

- (1) Panel Administration - Costs for panel administration include officer time and website maintenance. Some Panels have appointed a full-time officer to support the Panel; within Birmingham a number of officers have some involvement in the Panel, but none work on it full time.
Support costs associated with the WMPCP website (westmidlandspcp.org.uk) is also supported by the grant.
- (2) Member Expenses - Members of the Panel can claim expenses in line with [Birmingham City Council's member expenses scheme](#), for travel and carers expenses
- (3) Panel Meeting Expenses - The grant covers the cost of meeting rooms and refreshments, including recruitment panel meetings.
- (4) Allowances - In January 2013 the Panel agreed that Members would not use the Home Office grant to draw allowances for members of the Panel.
On 20 March 2023 the Panel agreed to change this arrangement and pay an annual discretionary allowance of £920 per annum to the co-opted independent panel members.

WMPCP Forecast Spend 2025-26

Budget Category	Forecast spend (£)
Panel administration (1)	£60,000
Member Expenses (2)	£1,000
Panel Meeting Expenses (3)	£1,500
Allowances (4)	£2,760
Contingency (5)	£1,840
Total	£67,100

Notes on proposed expenditure 2025-26

- (1) Panel administration - Costs for panel administration include officer time and website maintenance. Some Panels have appointed a full-time officer to support the Panel; within Birmingham a number of officers have some involvement in the Panel, but none work on it full time. Support costs associated with the WMPCP website (westmidlandspcp.org.uk) is also supported by the grant.
- (2) Member Expenses - Members of the Panel can claim expenses in line with [Birmingham City Council's member expenses scheme](#), for travel, and carer expenses.
- (3) Panel Meeting Expenses - The grant also covers the cost of meeting rooms and refreshments.
- (4) Allowances - In January 2013 the Panel agreed that Members would not use the Home Office grant to draw allowances for members of the Panel. On 20 March 2023 the Panel agreed to change this arrangement and pay an annual discretionary allowance of £920 to the co-opted independent panel members.
- (5) Contingency - Contingency funding is available for other expenses, including conferences, training, and development.

WMPCP Home Office Grant Claim and Expenditure 2024-25

Budget Category	Spend (£)
Panel administration (1)	63,091.76
Member Expenses (2)	00.00
Panel Meeting Expenses (3)	1237.53
Allowances (4)	2623.15
Total Home Office Claim	£66,952.44

Notes on expenditure 2024-25:

- (1) Panel Administration - Costs for panel administration include officer time and website maintenance. Some Panels have appointed a full-time officer to support the Panel; within Birmingham a number of officers have some involvement in the Panel, but none work on it full time.
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On 20 March 2023 the Panel agreed to change this arrangement and pay an annual discretionary allowance of £920 per annum to the co-opted independent panel members.

WMPCP Forecast Spend 2025-26

Budget Category	Forecast spend (£)
Panel administration (1)	£61,840
Member Expenses (2)	£1,000
Panel Meeting Expenses (3)	£1,500
Allowances (4)	£2,760
Total	£67,100

Notes on proposed expenditure 2025-26

- (1) Panel administration - Costs for panel administration include officer time and website maintenance. Some Panels have appointed a full-time officer to support the Panel; within Birmingham a number of officers have some involvement in the Panel, but none work on it full time. Support costs associated with the WMPCP website (westmidlandspcp.org.uk) and training and development is also supported by the grant.
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