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Councillor Norma Stephenson OBE  
Chair of the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel  
Municipal Buildings  
Church Road  
Stockton-on-Tees  
TS18 1LD  
CC: Peter Bell

29 August, 2018

Dear Norma

I write in connection with a request from Cllr Vickers at a previous panel meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> July for more information on the cost of neighbourhood policing in Cleveland.

Cleveland Police have prepared the following response:

The Cost of neighbourhood policing is not budgeted for as a separate activity as all budgets are allocated dependent on expenditure type (for example police pay, premises costs etc.) as published in February as part of the PCC's decision notices. The total budget for 2018/19 is £119.8m

However HMICFRS use Value for Money profiles as an aid to inspect each Force in England and Wales. This information covers police spending across all types of activities- both national and local- and includes a range of indicators of police performance, including crime rates.

Forces have much in common. They often provide a response to similar types of crimes and incidents. This means they carry out many similar functions.



*The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland is an accredited Living Wage Employer with the Living Wage Foundation.*

Similarities make it easier to compare Forces and the profiles are specifically designed for this purpose- to highlight where there are important differences in costs or performance. However no two Forces are exactly alike, so the task is to make the comparisons as fair as possible, given the constraints of using national data. They also try to distinguish between costs which are within a Forces control and those which are not. For example, national pay rates for police officers or the demographics of the force area are both outside the force's control.

One of the areas that HMICFRS ask for analysis on is Local Policing, which within the HMICFRS analysis includes Neighbourhood Policing, Incident Response Management, Local Investigation and Prisoner processing and Specialist Community Liaison.

The analysis shows that in 2017/18, which was the last year available for the HMICFRS Value for Money profiles, Cleveland budgeted to spend £13.5m on Neighbourhood Policing, this is before the additional investment in this area of £1.5m by the PCC – of which £1.25m was budgeted to spend in 2017/18 – to allow for the time taken to recruit into these new posts. So in total £14.75m was budgeted to be spent in 2017/18.

This equated to 11.9% of the 2017/18 budget, based on the HMICFRS' analysis of total budget available to the Force/PCC when National Policing and Central Costs are removed. This compares to the 11.6% spent by those Forces that are described as most similar to Cleveland.

The HMIC analysis from 2012/13 shows that Cleveland budgeted to spend £16.1m on Neighbourhood Policing which included a £2.948m specific grant, from the Government, to fund PCSO's within Cleveland. This grant was cut at the end of 2012/13 and is no longer available to the PCC/Force and therefore has resulted in less funding being available to be spent in this area overall.

This equated to 12.9% of the 2012/13 budget based on the HMICFRS' analysis of total budget available to the Force/PCC when National Policing and Central Costs are removed. If the specific grant is removed from the analysis (which provides a better comparator to the 2017/18 position) then the budget for Neighbourhood Policing would have equated to 10.9% of the overall 2012/13 budget.

I would appreciate it if this information could be shared with members of the Police and Crime Panel and appended to the minutes of the previous meeting.

Yours sincerely



Barry Coppinger  
Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland