

# Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner



**Briefing Event for Prospective  
Police and Crime Commissioner Candidates and Agents  
Monday 24 February 2020  
Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith**

Time	Item
6:00pm	Welcome and introductions  Vivian Stafford, Chief Executive (Chair)  Outline of the role and responsibilities for a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
6.10pm	The Election Process  Andrew Seekings, Police Area Returning Officer Lindsay Tomlinson, Electoral Services Manager
6.40pm	Policing in Cumbria  Chief Constable, Michelle Skeer
6.55pm	The Financial Context  Roger Marshall, Joint Chief Financial Officer
7.15pm	Police and Crime Panel  Tim Gale, Policy Advisor
7.25pm to 7.35pm	Question and answer session  Officers present will be available to speak to prospective candidates and agents.
7.35pm	Close

Please note that this is an open briefing for candidates/agents.  
Refreshments will be available from 5.45pm.

**Officers that will be attending****Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

Chief Executive	Vivian Stafford
Joint Chief Financial Officer	Roger Marshall
Deputy Chief Executive	Gill Shearer
P.A. to the Police and Crime Commissioner	Paula Coulter

**Cumbria Constabulary**

Chief Constable	Michelle Skeer
Joint Chief Finance Officer	Roger Marshall

**Allerdale Borough Council (Police Area Returning Officer - PARO)**

PARO	Andrew Seekings
Electoral Services Manager	Lindsay Tomlinson

**Cumbria County Council (Police and Crime Panel Support)**

Policy Advisor	Tim Gale
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Directions to Carleton Hall are attached:



Directions to  
Carleton Hall.pdf

# Vivian Stafford

## Chief Executive

*Making Cumbria even safer*



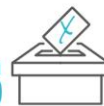
# PCC Elections Overview

- ❑ Directly elected individual for Cumbria
- ❑ Election 7th May 2020, with count taking place on 11th May 2020
- ❑ Taking office on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020
- ❑ 4 year term
- ❑ In every Force in England and Wales except where there is a directly elected Mayor.



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MAY 7<sup>th</sup>  
2020



● Elected every four years to represent your views on policing and crime locally. **Directly accountable to you**, the public



● Commissions dedicated **local victim support services**, that you can access to **help you cope and recover**, if you become a victim of crime



● Funds **crime prevention** services to address issues such as drug and alcohol misuse, youth crime and anti-social behaviour to keep **your communities safe**



● After **consulting local people**, publishes a **Police and Crime Plan** to identify local priorities and how they plan to meet them



● Works with national and local policing and **Criminal Justice partners** to reduce crime and help **make communities safer**



● Works with local authorities, health and education services, plus the voluntary sector and local businesses to create a **joined-up response** to local problems

## What does your Police and Crime Commissioner do for you?

YOU HAVE A VOICE ...



Some Police and Crime Commissioners are also responsible for their local **Fire and Rescue Services**



● Holds the **Chief Constable to account** for delivering an effective and efficient police service

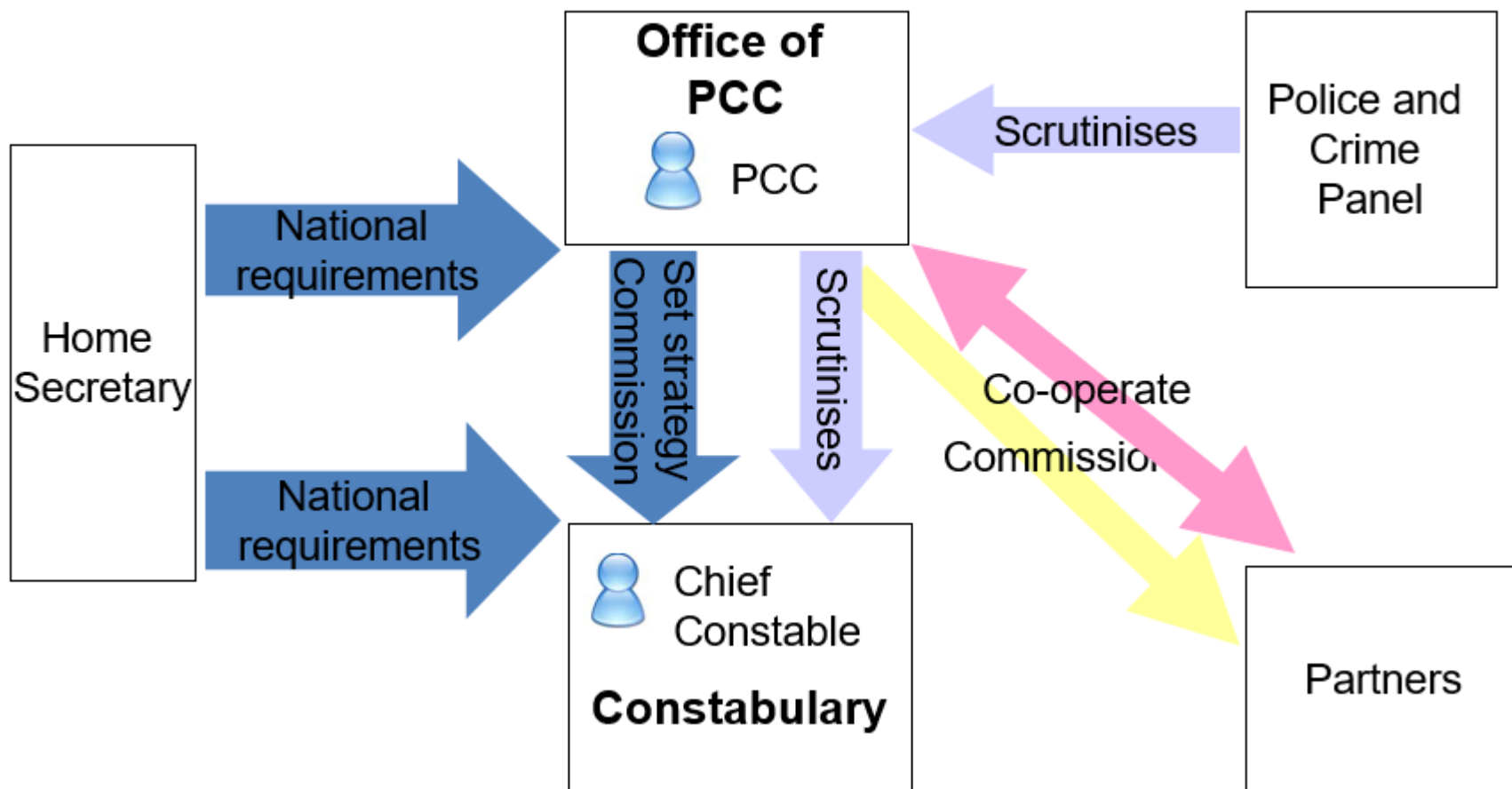


● Appoints the **Chief Constable** who runs the operational side of policing in your force area



● Sets the **police budget**, decides how much **you pay towards policing** from your council tax, to add to the funding from central Government and decides how that combined money is spent

# Overall Structure



Please note that all of the presentations will be uploaded onto our website

<https://cumbria-pcc.gov.uk/pcc-election/>



# Candidates and agents briefing

Police and Crime Commissioner elections

7 May 2020



# Introductions

Andrew Seekings, Allerdale Borough Council  
Police Area Returning Officer

Lindsay Tomlinson, Allerdale Borough Council  
Electoral Services Manager

# Topics

- who's who
- key dates of the election timetable
- qualifications
- disqualifications
- nominations
- agents
- polling day
- counting and collation of votes
- candidate spending
- integrity issues
- contacts

## Who's who

- The Police Area Returning Officer (PARO) is the person responsible for the overall conduct of the election. The PARO is Andrew Seekings – Interim Chief Executive and Returning Officer at Allerdale Borough Council
- The PARO is also responsible for liaising with and coordinating the work of the 5 other Local Returning Officers (LROs) in the police area.
- The Electoral Registration Officers are responsible for maintaining the register of electors and lists of absent voters.
- Contact details for LROs/EROs are contained in your pack

## Voting Areas and election combinations

- Allerdale Borough Council: PCC election only
- Barrow Borough Council: PCC election only
- Carlisle City Council: PCC election and City Council/parish elections
- Copeland Borough Council: PCC election only
- Eden District Council: PCC election only
- South Lakeland District Council: PCC election and District Council/parish council elections

## Key dates

Publication of Notice of Election	<b>25 March 2020</b>
Nominations commence	<b>26 March 2020</b>
Close of nominations	<b>4pm – 8 April</b>
Notification of appointment of election agents	<b>4pm – 8 April</b>
Publication of statement of persons nominated	<b>4pm – 9 April</b>
Deadline for applications to register to vote	<b>Midnight – 21 April</b>
Deadline for new postal vote applications / changes to existing postal or proxy vote applications	<b>5pm – 22 April</b>

## Key dates (cont'd)

Deadline for applications for new proxy votes	<b>5pm – 29 April</b>
Publication of notice of poll/situation of polling stations	<b>Not later than 29 April</b>
Appointment of sub-agents, counting and polling agents	<b>30 April</b>
<b>Polling day</b>	<b>7 May 2020 – 7am to 10pm</b>
Deadline to apply for an emergency proxy	<b>5pm – polling day</b>
Replacement for lost/spoilt postal votes ends	<b>5pm – polling day</b>
Alterations to register to correct clerical error	<b>9pm – polling day</b>
Return of election expenses to the PARO	<b>+ 70 days from result</b>

## Qualifications

- To stand as a candidate for the Police and Crime Commissioner elections you must (on the day you are nominated **and** on polling day):
  - Be at least 18 years of age
  - Be British, qualifying Commonwealth citizen (with indefinite leave to remain), or a national of an EU member state
  - And be registered as a local government elector in a local council area that is within the police area

Most disqualifications apply on the day of nomination **and** on polling day. For example, where you:

## Disqualifications

- have been nominated as a candidate at a PCC election taking place on the same day for a different police area
- have ever been convicted of an imprisonable offence
- are a police officer or are directly or indirectly employed by the police
- are a member of the legislature of any country or territory outside the UK
- are a member of staff of a local council that falls wholly or partly within the police area in which you wish to stand
- are employed in an organisation that is under the control of a local council in the police area in which you wish to stand.
- are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order



Disqualifications that apply only on election:

## Disqualifications

- Being a Member of the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales, the Northern Ireland Assembly or the European Parliament.
- If they are elected they must resign their seat before taking up the post of Police and Crime Commissioner.

## The nomination papers

- The following three nomination papers must be submitted by all candidates by 4pm on 8 April together with the deposit:
  - the **nomination form**
  - the **home address form**
  - the **consent to nomination**
- Party candidates will also need to submit, by 4pm 8 April:
  - A **certificate** authorising the use of a party name / registered description on the ballot paper
  - A written request to use one of the party's emblems on the ballot paper (optional)

## Completing nomination papers

- Take care when completing your nomination papers, as mistakes may invalidate your nomination.
- Complete nomination papers early and book an informal check.
- Checking appointments can be requested tonight or by emailing [PCC2020@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:PCC2020@allerdale.gov.uk) Tel 01900 878657

## The deposit

- Each candidate must deposit £5,000 with the PARO so that the nomination is valid.
- Can be made using legal tender (cash) or a UK banker's draft
- We will also accept electronic funds transfer. Payment details are in your pack. *Funds can take a few days to clear so please make payment early as funds must be in place by 4pm on 8 April*
- The deposit is returned if a candidate polls at least 5% of the valid first preferences cast across the police area (or 5% of the valid votes if only two candidates are standing)

## Nomination form

- Include your full name
  - Optional: you can additionally give any names you commonly use that are different from any forename(s) or surname that you have so they appear on the ballot paper.
- 100 subscribers
  - Must sign and print their names. Check details of subscribers against electoral register.
  - Only ask subscribers to sign **after** completing the name and description fields on the form.

## Nomination form

- You can ask to use a description
  - if you are a party candidate
    - registered party name or registered description (if authorised by a certificate of authorisation)
  - if you are an independent
    - the description 'Independent' (or you may stand without a description)

## Home address form

- Candidate's home addresses do not appear on the ballot paper – but they are published on the statement of persons nominated, unless otherwise requested
- On the home address form you can request to keep your home address private
- If so, state electoral area within the police area where you are registered to vote
- In all cases, you must give your full name and home address

## Consent to nomination form

- All candidates must consent to their nomination
- On the consent to nomination form you will be asked to state:
  - that you are qualified and not disqualified from standing
  - that you are not nominated as a PCC candidate for any other police area on the same day
  - your date of birth
- The consent must be witnessed



## Certificate of authorisation

- To use a party's name or registered description, you must have **a certificate of authorisation** signed by the party's Nominating Officer (or someone authorised to act on their behalf).
- It must be submitted to the PARO by the same deadlines as the other nomination papers, i.e. by 4pm on 8 April

## Emblem request form

- Party candidates can ask for a party emblem to be printed on the ballot paper.
- The emblem must be registered by the party and published on the Electoral Commission's register of political parties.
- Emblem request form must be submitted by 4pm on 8 April

## Joint candidates

- Nominated by **more than one party**
- May use registered joint descriptions
  - must be supported by certificate of authorisation **from each party**
- May use one emblem of one of the parties

## Candidate's election address

- Each candidate is entitled to make a campaign statement for publication on a website provided by the UK Government:  
➤ [www.choosemypcc.org.uk](http://www.choosemypcc.org.uk)
- The election address must be submitted to and approved by the PARO

## Candidate's election address

The election address must

- be prepared by the candidate's agent (if one is appointed) or by the candidate acting as his/her own agent.
- be submitted by the deadline set by the PARO and in the prescribed form
- contain a statement to the effect that it has been prepared by the election agent
- give the name and address of the election agent

## Candidate's election address

The election address must

- be completed in English
- be submitted in electronic form
- contain matter relating to the PCC election only
- be capable of being produced in hard copy form

## Candidate's election address

### The election address must not

- contain any advertising material (other than material promoting the candidate as a candidate at the PCC election)
- contain any material referring to any other candidate for election at the PCC election
- contain any material appearing with a view to commercial gain
- contain any material appearing to be indecent, obscene or offensive
- contain any material appearing to be such that its publication or distribution would be likely to amount to the commission of an offence
- exceed 300 words (the agent's statement, name and address count towards the 300 word limit)

## Candidate's election address

The election address may have

- A photograph of the candidate so long as it shows no other person other than the candidate and does not contravene those points contained in the “must not” list.
- A party emblem if the candidate is a party candidate.



## Candidate's election address

- If you would like an election address included on the website, the election agent must submit it to the PARO by **12 noon** on 8 April.
- Election address should be submitted electronically to [PCC2020@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:PCC2020@allerdale.gov.uk)

## Submitting nomination papers

- The nomination form and home address form may only be delivered, by hand, by:
  - the candidate
  - their election agent, provided the PARO has received notice of their appointment
  - the proposer or seconder as shown on the nomination form
- Anyone can deliver the consent to nomination, certificate of authorisation and emblem request form – but it should be someone you trust
- The consent to nomination must be delivered by hand; the certificate of authorisation and emblem request forms for party candidates may be posted

- Responsible for the proper management of your election campaign; particularly its financial management.

## Election agent

- Notification of appointment must reach the us by **4pm on 8 April**. The form is included in the nomination pack.
- You will become your own agent by default if none is appointed.

## Other agents

- **Sub-agents**

The election agent may appoint sub-agents to act on their behalf in the police area, as long as their areas of appointment do not overlap. The agent must give written notice to **the PARO** by **30 April**

- **Polling and counting agents**

**The LRO** requires notice in writing of any people appointed as polling agents and any persons nominated to attend the counting of the votes **by 30 April**

## Other agents

- **Postal vote agents**
  - The appointment of postal voting agents attending a particular opening session must be made before the start of the session. **LROs** will give 48 hours' notice.
  - We will collate the PV opening schedules for all LROs and communicate to candidates

## Access to electoral register / lists of absent voters

- Access by candidates – once you **officially** become a candidate
- The earliest you can become a candidate is 25 March
- Make **written** request to the EROs in the police area – forms are available in your nomination pack along with ERO office contact details.
- **Only use data for permitted purposes!**

## Registration

- You are uniquely placed to encourage people to register to vote.
- You should encourage people to register as soon as possible.
- The deadline for applying for the election is midnight on **21 April**
- Individuals can register online at <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>. It only takes a few minutes.

## Registration

- When discussing registering to vote with individuals, you will need to make them aware that they will need:
  - their National Insurance number,
  - date of birth and address to register.
- People who do not have / cannot retrieve their National Insurance Number can still register, but they may need to provide further information. If so, they will be contacted by the relevant ERO.



## Campaigning dos and don'ts

- Do use imprints on all your campaign material, including websites.
- Do comply with planning rules relating to advertising hoardings and large banners.
- Do make sure outdoor posters are removed 2 weeks after the election.
- Do not produce material that looks like a poll card.
- Do not pay people to display your adverts (unless they display adverts as part of their normal business).

## Code of conduct for campaigners

- Campaigners are an essential element of a healthy democracy, but their activities should not bring into question the integrity of the electoral process.
- Electoral registration and absent vote applications:
  - Ensure forms fully confirm to the requirements of electoral law
  - Include the EROs address for the return of forms
  - Ensure unaltered applications are sent to ERO within **two working days**.
  - Make sure electors understand implications of applying for an absent vote.
  - Do not encourage postal ballot pack redirection.
  - Do not encourage electors to appoint a campaigner as proxy.

## Code of conduct for campaigners

- Postal ballot packs:
  - Never touch a postal ballot paper
  - Never observe electors completing their postal vote.
  - Never handle or take any completed ballot paper or postal ballot pack from voters
- Campaigning outside polling stations:
  - You are allowed to put your messages to voters on polling day, including public spaces outside polling places
  - Keep access to polling places and the pavements around polling places clear to allow voters to enter.

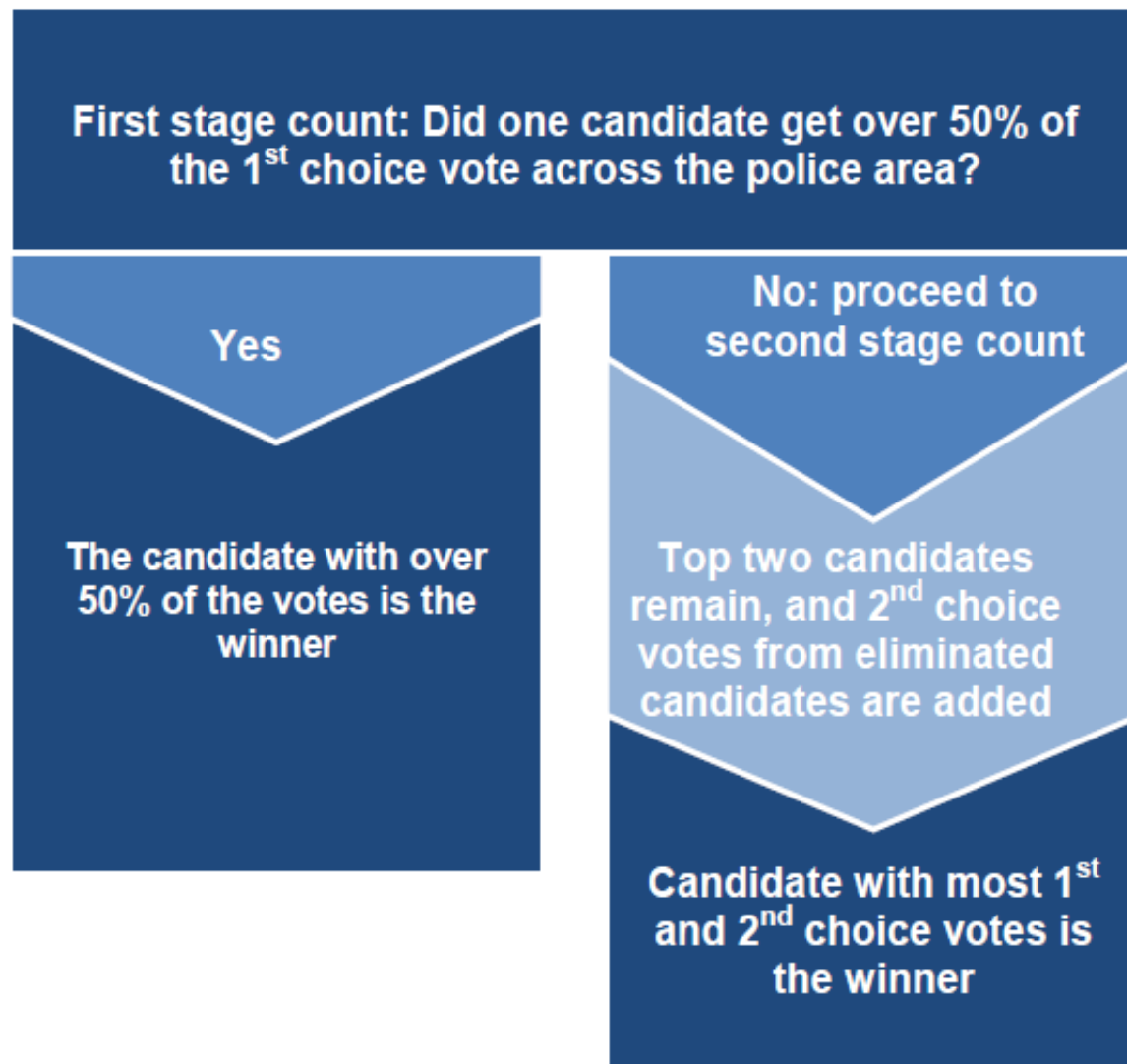
## Polling day

- Polling stations open from 7am to 10pm
- PARO Office will be open 6am to 9pm for queries or problems relating to the administration of the election
  - contact the Electoral Commission for any queries about a candidate's campaign literature (contact details shown later)
- Voters in the polling station or in a queue outside the polling station at 10 pm can apply for a ballot paper
- Postal votes – can be handed into polling stations within the voting area (*in Carlisle CC and South Lakeland DC voting areas packs must be delivered to a polling station 'within the ward'*) or delivered to the relevant elections office until 10pm. A person in a queue at a polling station at 10pm waiting to hand in postal vote can do so after 10pm.

## Supplementary vote (SV) system

- If there are more than 2 candidates standing in the police area - supplementary vote system (SV) used.
- This is where voters can vote for a first and second choice candidate they want to elect.
- If there are only two candidates then the first-past-the post electoral system is used

## SV count



## Verification and count locations

- Candidates, election agents, counting agents and one other person appointed by the candidate are entitled to attend the verification and count
- Verification – 10.00pm 7 May
  - Each LRO is responsible for verifying the votes in their area
  - Venue details are in your candidate pack
  - Venues will be open to candidates and agents from 9.30pm
- Counting of votes – 10.00am 11 May
  - Each LRO is responsible for counting the votes in their area
  - Venue details are in your candidate pack
  - Venue or venues will open to candidates agents from 9.30am

## Result collation and declaration of the result

- The PARO is responsible for collating the local count totals from across the police area and declaring the result
  - The results will be collated at Workington Leisure Centre
  - The venue will open to candidates & agents from 9.30am 11 May
- Attendance:
  - no counting agents allowed
  - candidates and one person chosen by each candidate
  - election agents (or sub-agent if they are not present)



# Spending information

## Election spending

- The time when spending and donation rules apply is called the 'regulated period'.
- The regulated period begins on the **day after the date** you officially become a candidate and ends on polling day.
- The earliest date you can officially become a candidate is the last date for publication of the notice of election, which is 25 March
- You must keep within the spending limit during the regulated period. You must keep a record of your spending on items and services you use during the regulated period, and donations you receive towards that spending.

## Spending limit

- Each police area has a maximum spending limit that is set out in legislation
- The spending limit for Cumbria police area is £72,231
- Comprehensive guidance is included in **Part 3 of the Commission's guidance for candidates and agents**
- No spending will be reimbursed

## Candidates' spending returns

- Returns due 70 calendar days after result of election
- Returns made public by PARO
- Sample of returns may be reviewed by the **Electoral Commission**
- Failure to submit an expenses return is a criminal offence

# Integrity information

Police single  
point of contact  
(SPOC)

Detective Sergeant Amy Smith

T: 101 Ext: 41950

Direct: 03001240113 Ext 41950

E : [amy.smith@cumbria.pnn.police.uk](mailto:amy.smith@cumbria.pnn.police.uk)

W: [www.cumbria.police.uk](http://www.cumbria.police.uk)

# Contacts

- PARO Elections office – Allerdale House,  
New Bridge Road, Workington  
[PCC2020@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:PCC2020@allerdale.gov.uk)  
0303 123 1731 / 01900 878657

- Contacts** • Electoral Commission contacts
- For questions on the Commission's guidance on standing for election, contact  
[infoengland@electoralcommission.org.uk](mailto:infoengland@electoralcommission.org.uk)  
0333 103 1928
  - [www.electoralcommission.org.uk/contact-us/our-offices](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/contact-us/our-offices)
  - For questions on election spending, contact 020 7271 0616



# Questions

# Thank you

Please ensure you take your candidate pack with you

# PCC Candidate and Agenda Briefing event.

Chief Constable  
Michelle Skeer QPM.

24 February 2020



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 [www.cumbria.police.uk](http://www.cumbria.police.uk)

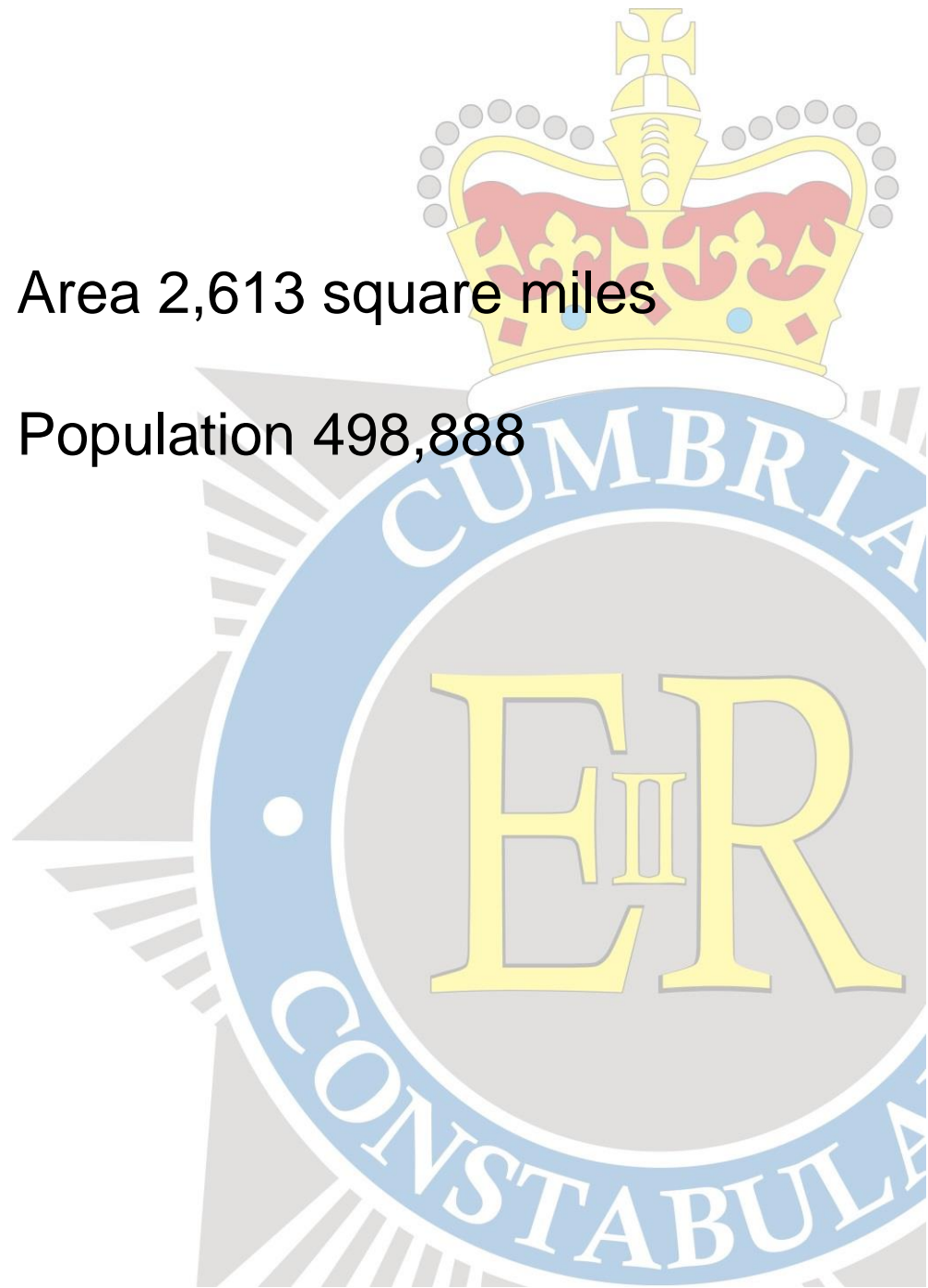
  [cumbriapolice](https://www.facebook.com/cumbriapolice)



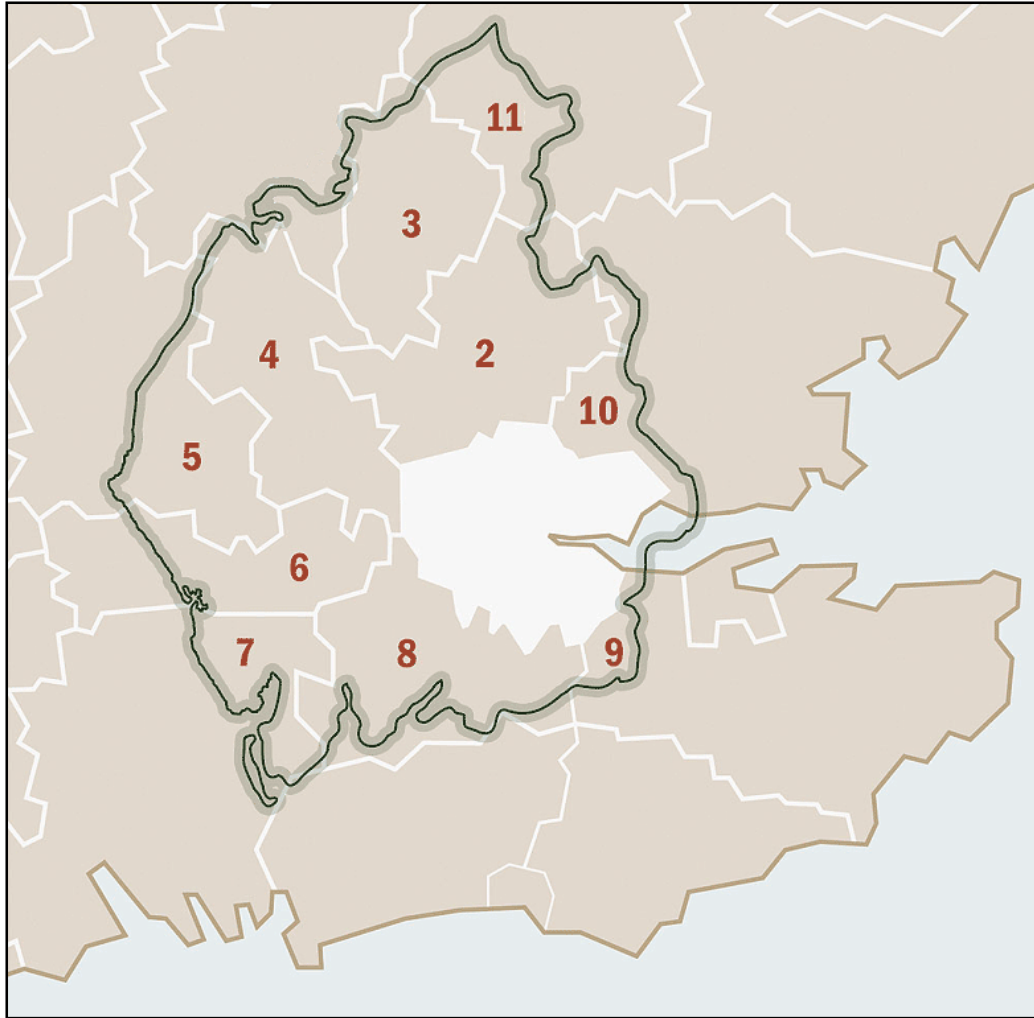
# County of Cumbria

Area 2,613 square miles

Population 498,888



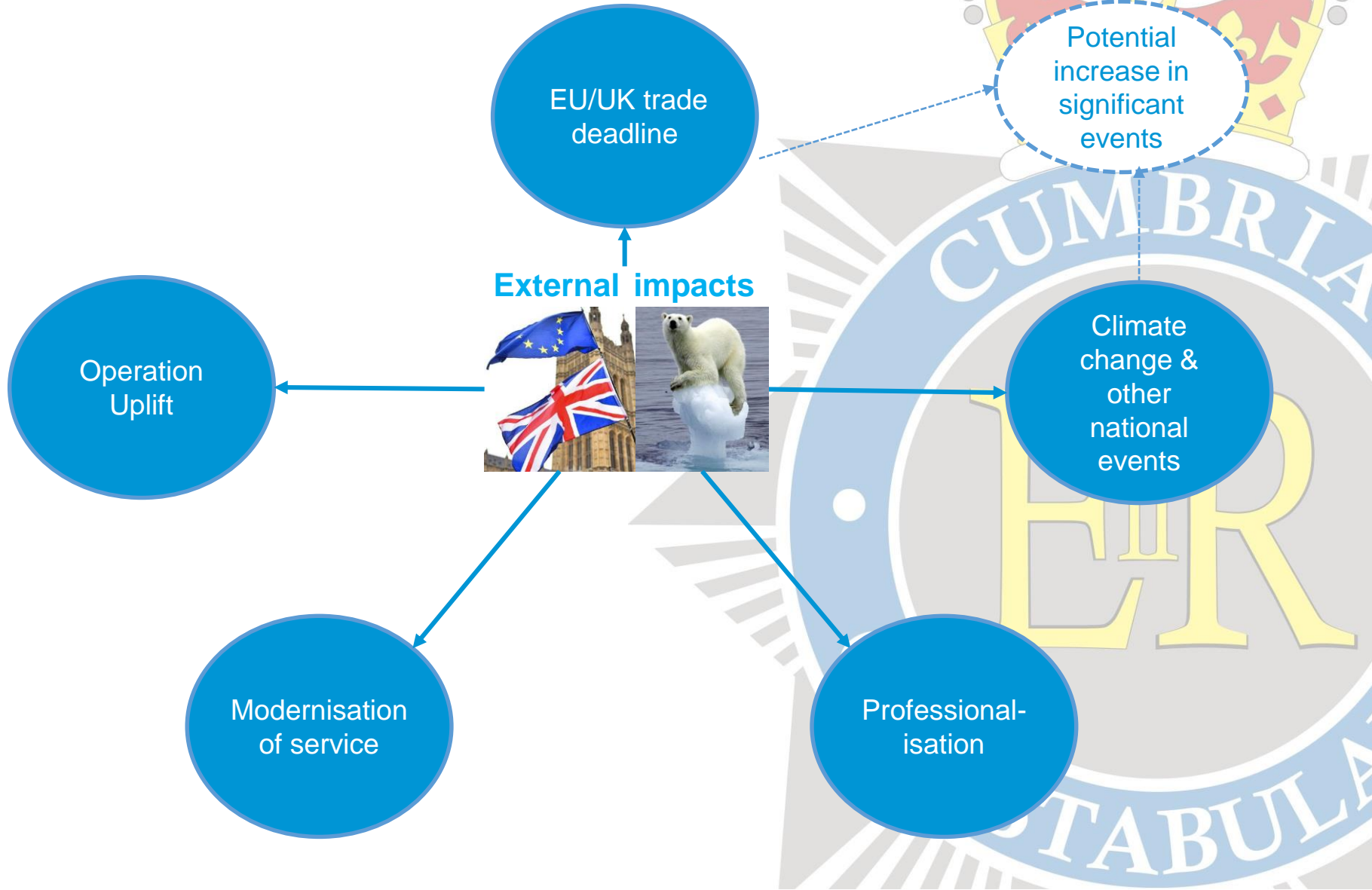
# Cumbria in relation to London and the South East



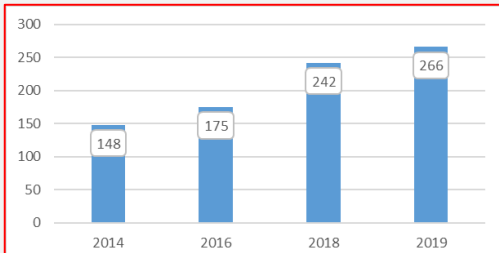
1. Greater London
2. Hertfordshire
3. Bedfordshire
4. Buckinghamshire
5. Half of Oxfordshire
6. Part of Berkshire
7. Part of Hampshire
8. Most of Surrey
9. 10 and 11 Parts of Kent, Essex and Cambridgeshire



# Policing in Cumbria: External drivers of demand & cost



# Policing in Cumbria: Operational drivers

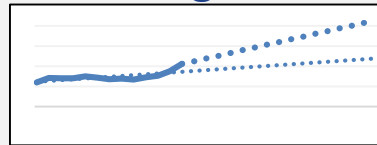


Compared to 2016, it takes an extra 1 ½ hours to deal with an incident from attending to investigation closure

6% more emergency incidents  
4% more crime related incidents  
16% more incidents relating to violence and disorder  
8% increase in crimes investigated

Rising crime,  
its severity  
and  
complexity

Increasing demand



Serious and  
organised  
crime

Operation Nile, Earnest  
and Horizon –county  
lines  
35% crime is rural crime

Vulnerability

33% violent crime is DA  
related- up 19% on  
previous year  
Average 12 VAs and 15 VCs  
safeguarding forms  
completed per day last  
year  
5.4% incidents involve  
mental health  
7% involve alcohol  
5% involve youth

Impact of the digital world

# Policing in Cumbria: sustaining & improving

Rising crime,  
its severity  
and  
complexity

Serious and  
organised  
crime

Vulnerability

+ve

Work with  
partners ,  
targeting crime  
that matters most  
to you

Tackle criminals  
who come to  
Cumbria to supply  
drugs and steal

Enhance  
protection of  
vulnerable adults  
and children

Bring more  
offenders to  
justice



# Value for money (paper on agenda) – key points

- Fixed costs due to unique geography, topography and socio economic environment = higher cost per head population
- Population is the main determinant for the profiles, low population = higher cost per head population
- Sparsity of population, rural nature of county and isolated geographic location = higher cost per head population



- Additional fixed cost irrespective of how and by whom police services are provided and regardless of policy/strategy decisions
- **OUTLIERS – Any questions?**

# Constabulary Performance

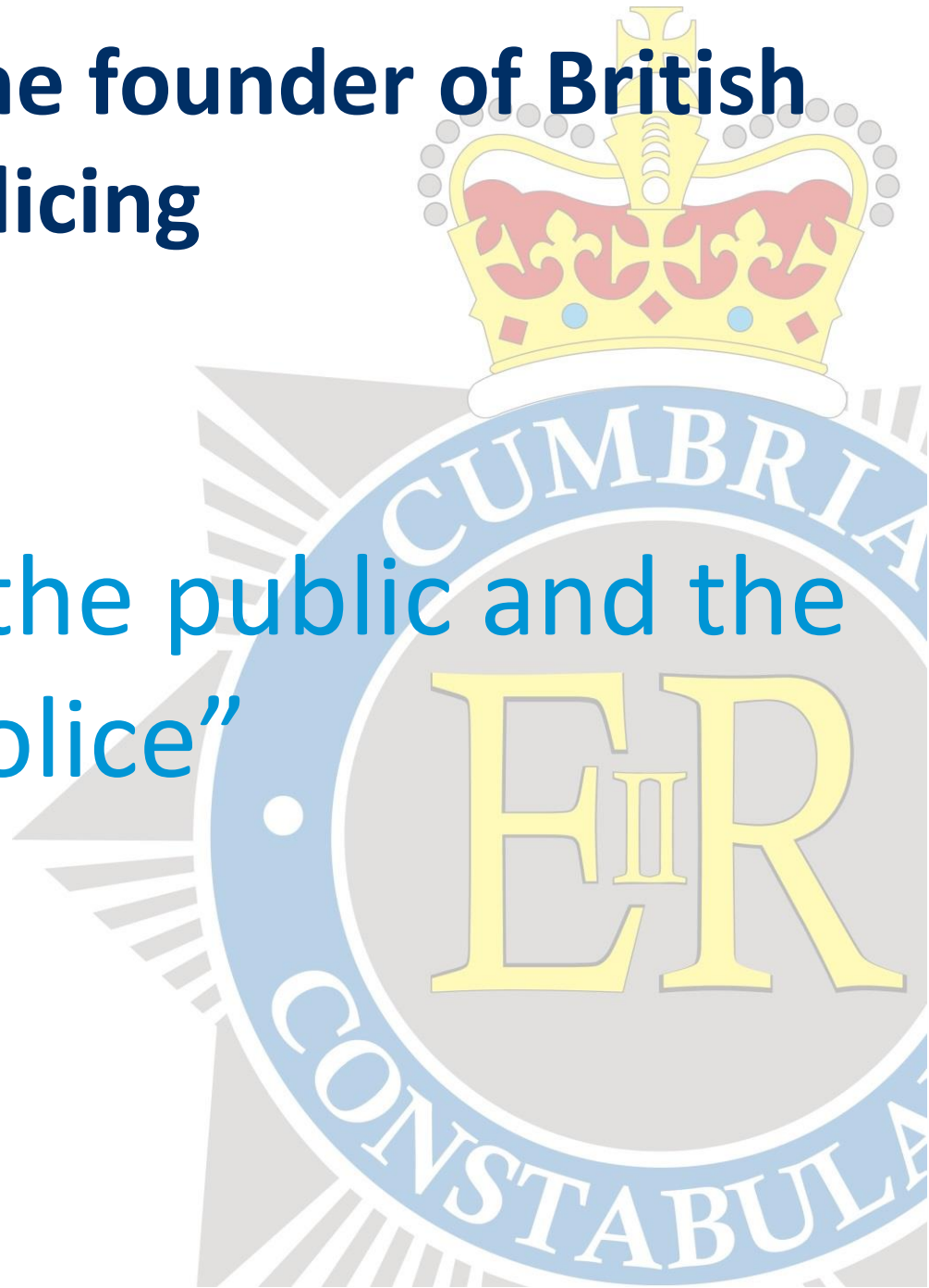
- HMICFRS – has graded Cumbria as a good performing force against all strands.
- Examples of recent police operations targeting serious and organised crime

- Operation Earnest
- Operation Nile
- Operation Rumble
- Operation Fabre
- Operation Hawk



# Sir Robert Peel, the founder of British Policing

“The police are the public and the public are the police”



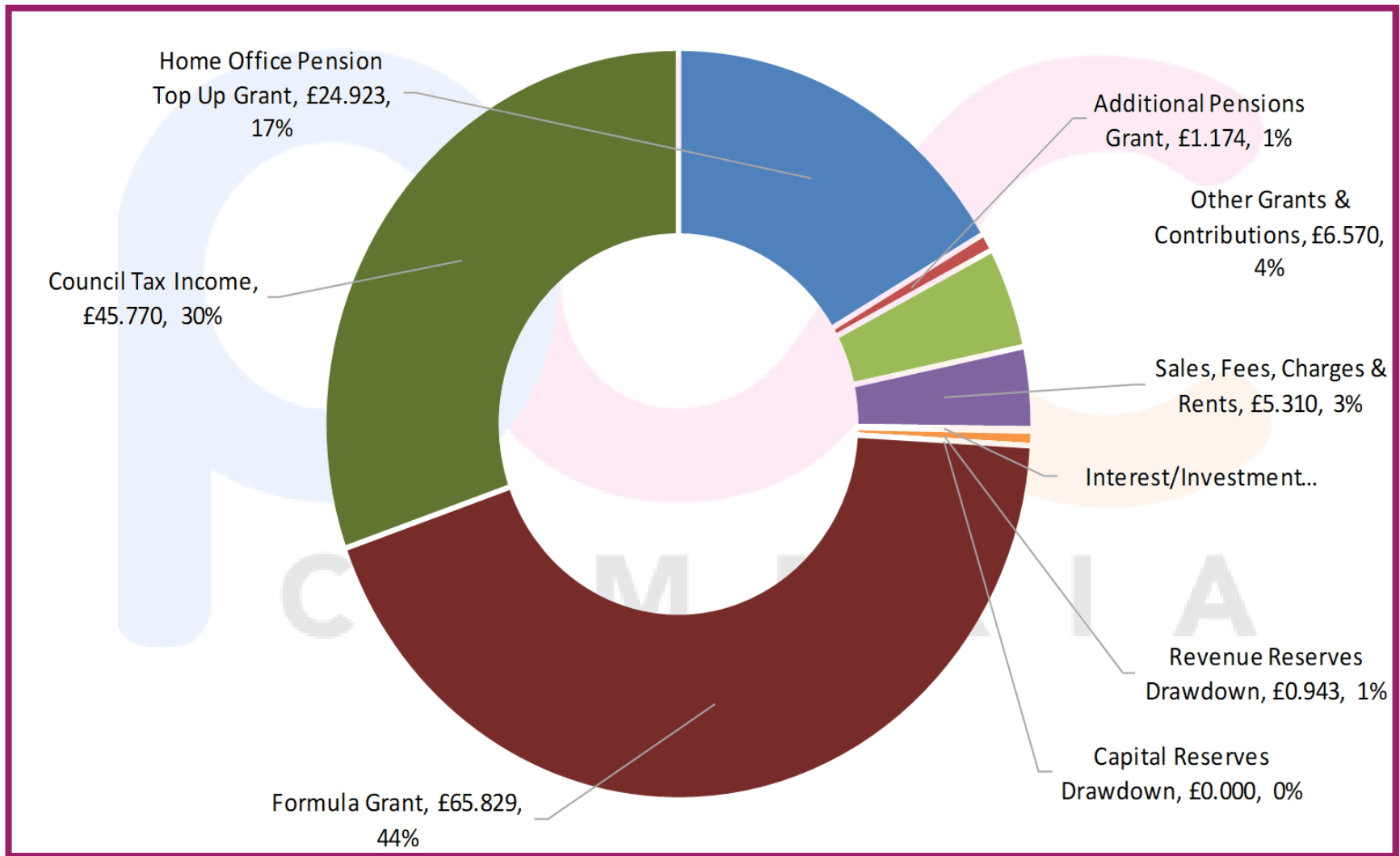
# The Financial Context

**Roger Marshall**  
**Chief Finance Officer**

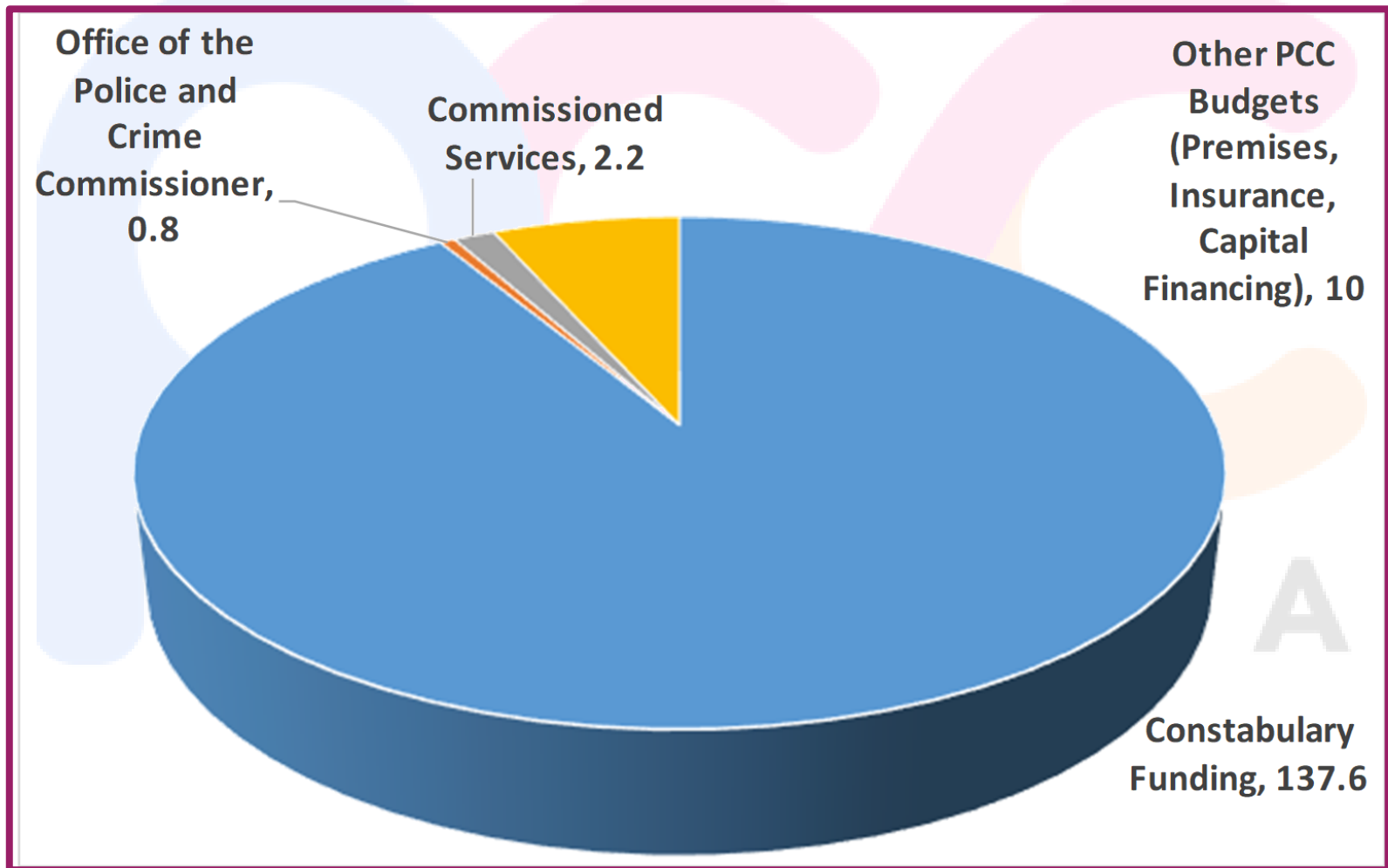
C U M B R I A

*Making Cumbria even safer*

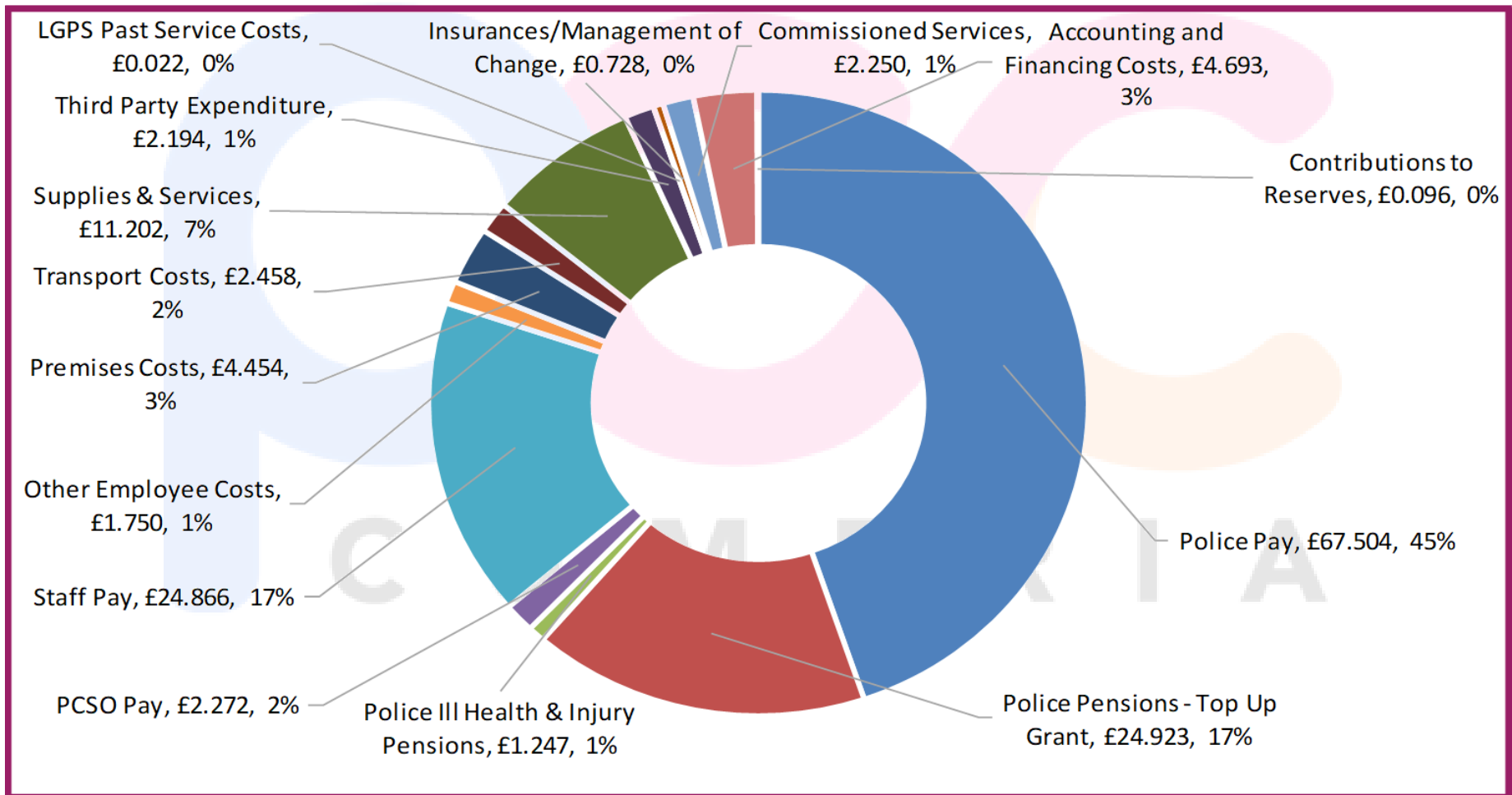
# Where Does the Money Come From ?



# Where is the Money Spent ? – High Level Analysis

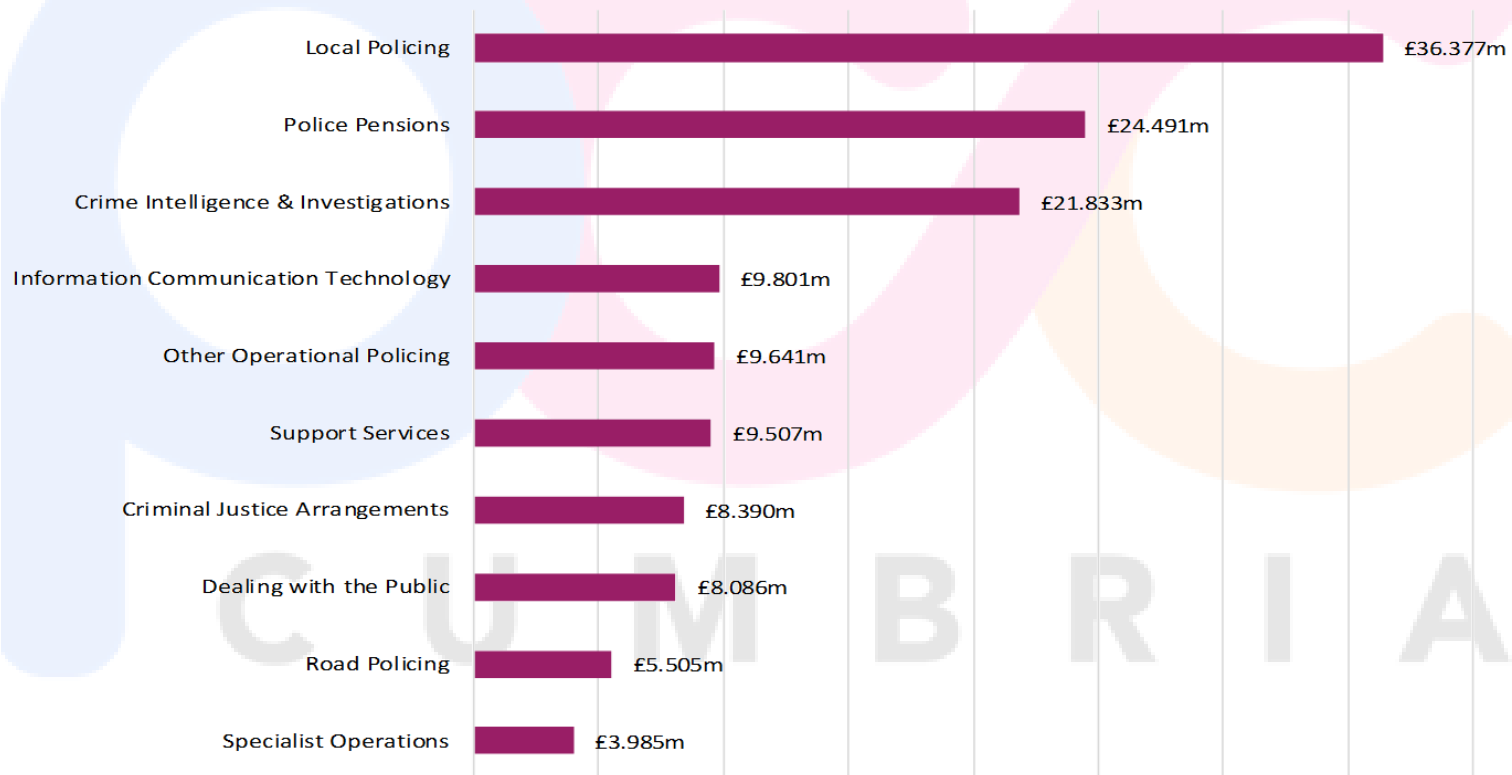


# Where is the Money Spent ? – Subjective Analysis



# Where is the Money Spent ? – Service Analysis

## Constabulary Expenditure 2020/21 £137.618m





# Capital Expenditure

- Assets which last more than one year.
- Average £6m pa, but lumpy
- Estates, ICT & Vehicles
- Capital Programme has to be 'Affordable, Prudent and Sustainable'

# The Grant Settlement 2020/21

After almost a decade of austerity the 2020/21 Grant Settlement was very different. The highlights for Cumbria were :-

- An additional £5.6m of grant funding to recruit an additional 51 officers plus enabling costs, as the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of Operation Uplift.
- Flexibility for PCCs to increase precept by up to £10 (3.89%) for a Band D property.
- Little or no provision for inflation on remaining budgets.

# Council Tax Precept

- The Commissioner made a decision at his Public Accountability Conference on the 19<sup>th</sup> February on a 3.47% increase in council tax for 2020/21.
- The increase takes the Band D precept from £256.68 to £265.59, an increase of £8.91 per annum.
- The medium term plans currently assume annual council tax increases of 4% pa for the remainder of the MTFF.
- Combination of council tax increases and increased tax-base deliver £8.8m over the period of the forecast.
- Final decisions on the council tax and budget are taken annually and must take into account the views of the public, consultation with the Police and Crime Panel and consultation with the Chief Constable.

# The Budget 2020/21 and Medium Term Financial Forecast to 2023/24

Description	2019/20 £'s	2020/21 £'s	2021/22 £'s	2022/23 £'s	2023/24 £'s
Commissioner's Budgets	(15,174,468)	(19,861,470)	(19,718,789)	(13,453,112)	(15,747,730)
Constabulary Funding	124,481,433	132,307,599	137,473,271	135,444,062	138,280,558
Movement to /(from) Revenue Reserves	(1,402,831)	(846,646)	(14,420)	68,206	6,386
Movement to /(from) Capital Reserves	(4,162,275)	0	(1,575,000)	(2,425,000)	0
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>103,741,858</b>	<b>111,599,483</b>	<b>116,165,061</b>	<b>119,634,156</b>	<b>122,539,214</b>
<b>Funding</b>					
Formula Grants/Funding	(59,942,966)	(65,829,188)	(64,898,166)	(67,002,866)	(67,002,866)
Council Tax	(43,798,892)	(45,770,294)	(47,974,705)	(50,255,926)	(52,648,004)
	0	0	3,292,191	2,375,364	2,888,343

## Operation Uplift £5.6m

- Funding for additional officers as part of Op.Uplift
- Provision for enabling posts.
- Provision for capital items.

## Core Budget £106m

- Little/no increase in grant for inflation.
- High and complex demand.
- New ICT & Training requirements.
- Stretched Resources.
- Capital grant reduced

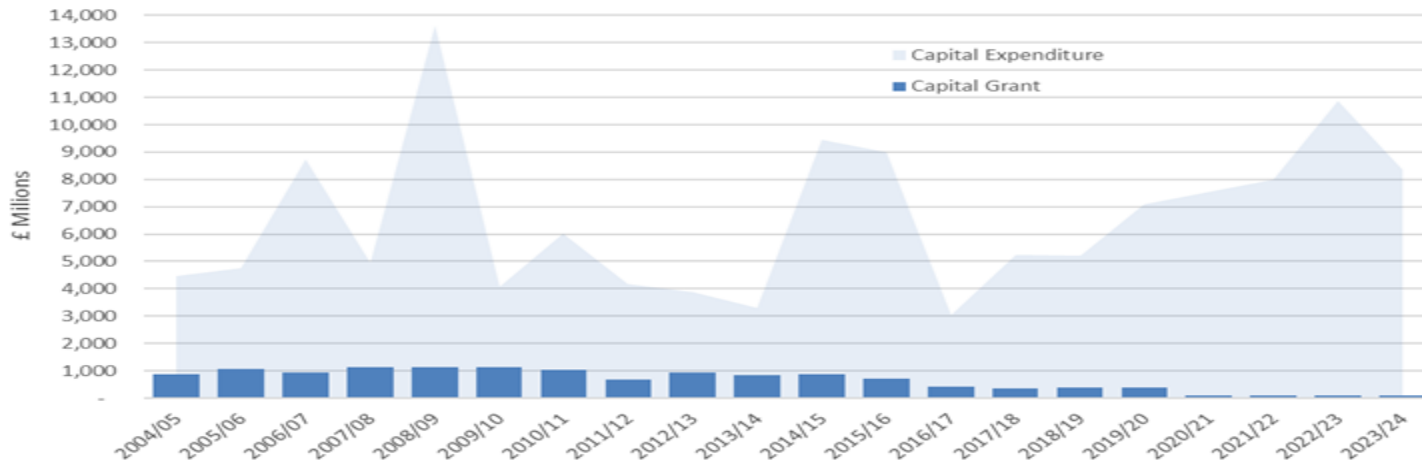


# Financial Challenges

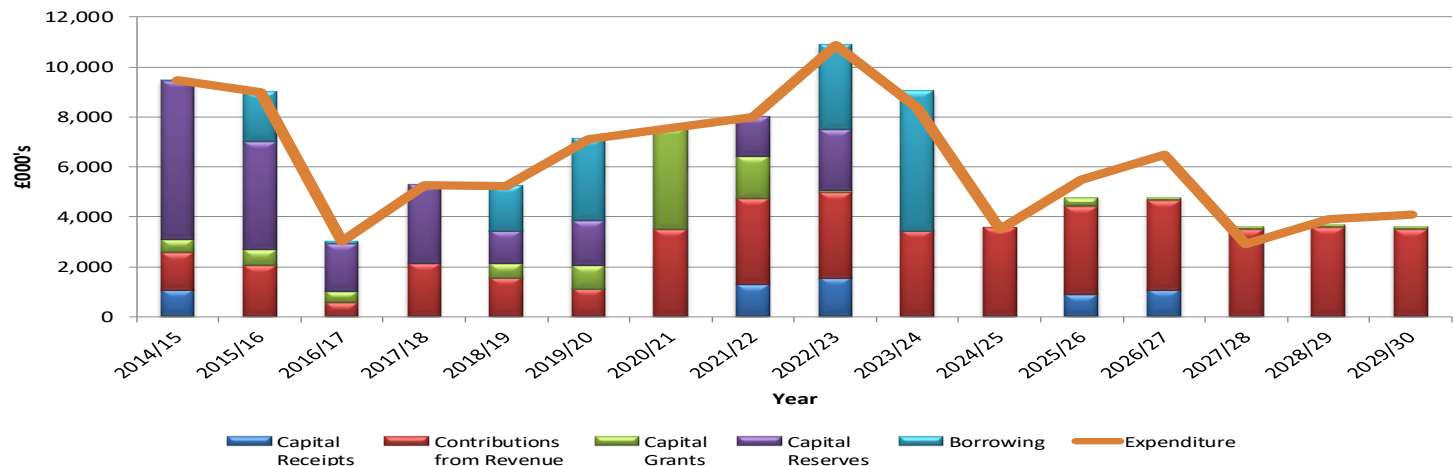
- The *sustainability* of a funding model which relies on the Commissioners levying above inflation council tax increases to meet cost pressures.
- Delivering further savings, having already delivered £25m of savings since 2012.
- Operation Uplift constrains the future ability to deliver savings.
- Uncertainty over years 2 and 3 of Operation Uplift.
- Balancing pro-active use of reserves against financial resilience.
- Increasing requirement to support the capital programme from the revenue budget.

# Capital Expenditure – The Challenge

Chart to show falling government capital grants and sustained capital expenditure. (Includes 2019/20 estimate outturn and 4 year MTFF)



**Capital Programme - Historic 5 Year's outturns, Predicted 2019/20 outturn and 10 years forecast to 2029/30**



# Financial Risks

- Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR)
- The cost of national policing initiatives particularly the Emergency Services Network (ESN)
- Pensions issues
- Brexit
- Police Funding Formula Review



# Financial Governance – The Role of the Commissioner.

- Deciding the level of council tax and budget annually and taking into account the views of the public, consultation with the Police and Crime Panel and consultation with the Chief Constable.
- Authorising Annual Financial Statements, Code of Corporate Governance & AGS
- Approving Treasury Management Strategy & Wider Financial Policies (MRP, Reserves, Investment and Borrowing Strategies)
- Approving the Annual Audit Plan and Audit Charter
- Approving the rules and regulations that support effective financial controls (financial regulations, procurement regulations, grant regulations)
- Holding the Constabulary to account for financial management
- All of the above supported by a Joint Audit and Standards Committee & the CFO



Cumbria  
**Police and Crime  
Panel**

# The Legislation

Following the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 each police area in England (other than the metropolitan police district) was required to establish a Police and Crime Panel to publically scrutinise the newly created Police and Crime Commissioners.

The Cumbria Police and Crime Panel (PCP) was established in 2012. It was agreed that Cumbria County Council would host the PCP but it would be a joint Panel with representation district council

Members



# Panel's role and functions

The Cumbria Police and Crime Panel has the role of scrutinising the performance of the PCC, and challenges and supports the PCC's activities over a range of policy areas, including the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

The Panel also has a role in the handling of complaints against the PCC and the confirmation of key staff posts within the Office of the PCC such as the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer roles.

The Panel comprises elected members of local authorities across Cumbria working alongside two independent co-opted members. Together the Panel members reflect the breadth of communities in Cumbria.



# Core Functions:

- reviewing the police and crime plan
- reviewing the PCC's annual report
- carrying out confirmation hearings for certain senior appointments
- carrying out confirmation hearings for the chief constable
- investigating complaints about non-criminal behaviour of the PCC
- support and scrutinise the effective exercise of the functions of the PCC
- scrutiny around the setting of the council tax precept element for policing

# Panel meetings

The Panel meets a minimum of four times a year. Meetings are generally open to the press and public although some matters may be discussed in private. Meetings take place at different locations around the county.

## Useful links:

<http://cumbriapcp.org.uk/>

<https://www.cfps.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Guidance-to-police-and-crime-panels-on-the-panels-scrutiny-role.pdf>

