



Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

Gill Shearer

**Chief
Executive**

Introduction



Welcome and introductions



Housekeeping



Programme for the afternoon

The Role of the PFCC



The Police, Fire and Commissioner is two separate corporation soles:

**The Police, Fire and
Crime Commissioner for
Cumbria**

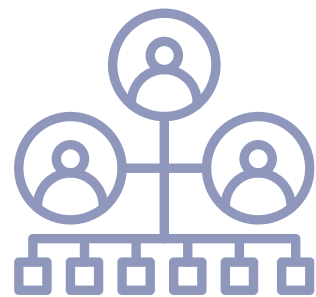
**Cumbria Commissioner
Fire and Rescue
Authority (CCFRA)**

Work of the OPFCC supporting the Commissioner to achieve their statutory functions

Performance & Accountability



Partnerships and
Commissioning



Strategic Planning



Governance and Legal

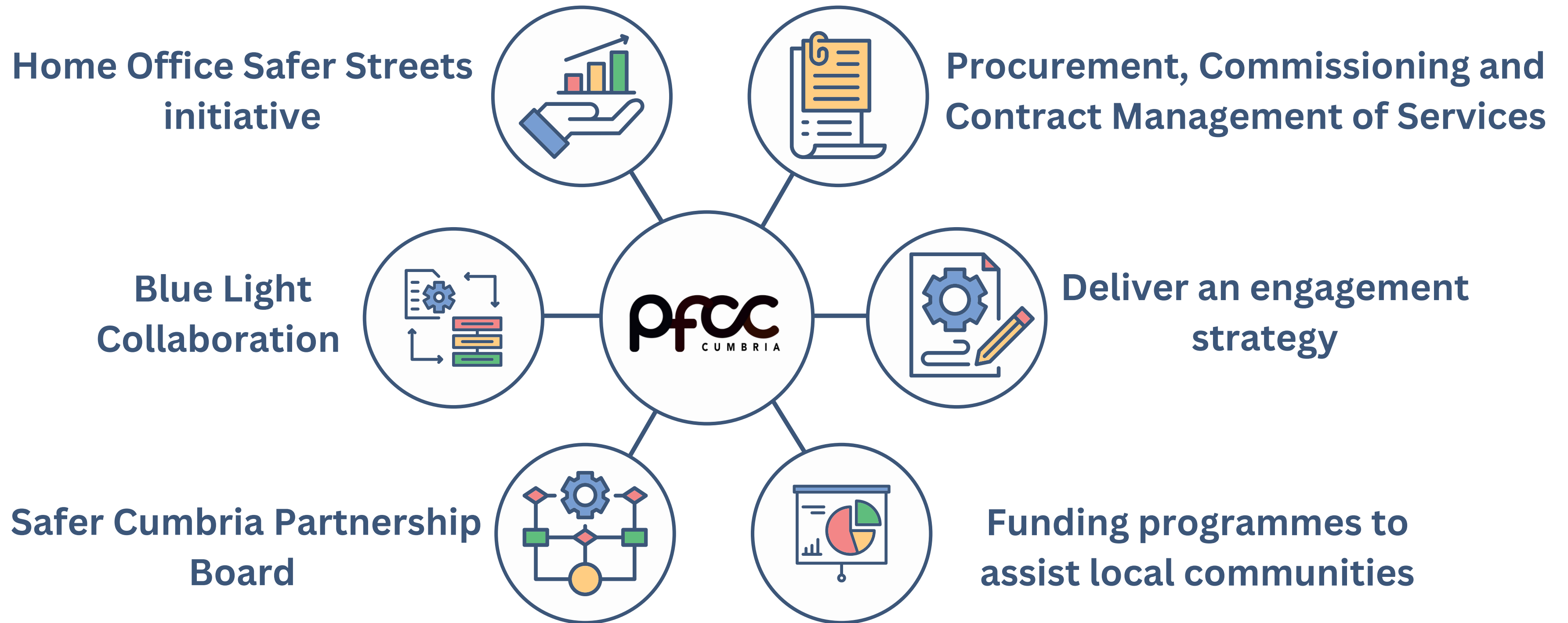


helping to improve trust and confidence in policing and fire service in Cumbria.

Strategic Planning



Partnerships & Commissioning



Performance and Accountability



**Public Accountability
Conference**



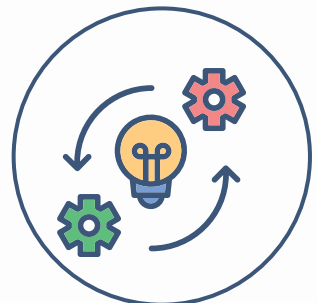
**Strategic Finance and
Governance Board (Fire)**



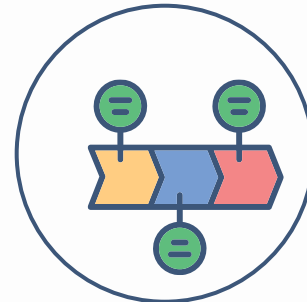
**Strategic Business Board
(Police)**



Joint Audit Committee



**Ethics, Integrity and
Community Scrutiny Panel**



**Violence Against Women and Girls
(VAWG) Scrutiny Panel**



Out of Court Disposal Scrutiny Panel

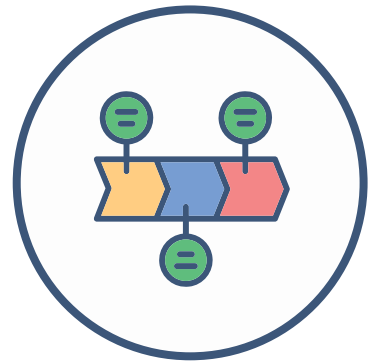


**Monitoring compliance of the Victims
Code of Practice**



HMICFRS Inspections

Governance & Legal



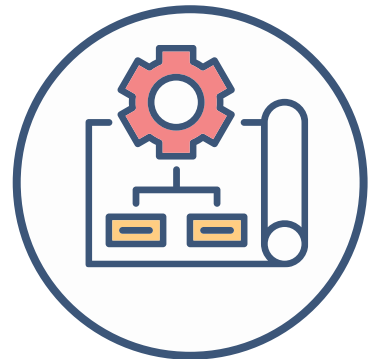
Chief Officer Complaints



Police complaint reviews



**Police Misconduct Panel
appointments**



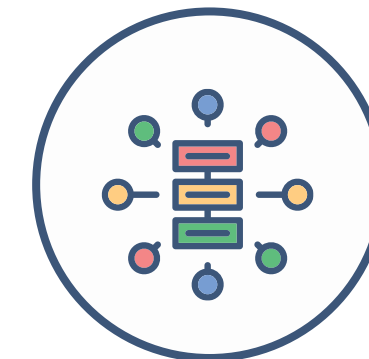
**Information Management
Compliance – Specified
Information Order, FOIs & SARs**



**Dealing with public
correspondence**



**Independent Custody Visiting
(ICV) and Animal Welfare
Schemes**



**Policies and Procedures &
Equality Duty**



Chief Officer Recruitment



Estate Management

What's next for the OPFCC?

- ✦ **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Hotspots**
- ✦ **Ministry Of Justice (MOJ) Funding**
- ✦ **National Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) framework delivery**
- ✦ **Strategic Policing Requirement**
- ✦ **Combatting Drugs Outcome framework**
- ✦ **Serious Violence Duty**
- ✦ **Develop a strong, ethical and professional culture across organisations, building trust in communities**

Candidates and Agents briefing

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner elections
2024

Cumbria Police area

Andrew Seekings – Police Area Returning Officer
(PARO)

Stephanie Shaw – Electoral Services Manager

Topics

This briefing has been updated to cover changes as enacted by the Elections Act. It will outline:

- who's who
- key dates of the election timetable
- qualifications and disqualifications
- nominations
- agents
- voter ID
- postal votes
- 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
- The PARO is also responsible for liaising with and coordinating the work of 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.

Voting Areas and Combinations

Cumberland voting area:

PFCC Elections and Parish Council Elections in
some Parishes in Carlisle.

PARO/LRO – Andrew Seekings

Westmorland & Furness voting area:

PFCC Elections and Parish Council Elections /
by elections.

LRO – Sam Plum

Key dates

Timetable process	Deadline:
Publication of Notice of Election	Wednesday 20 March
Nominations commence	Thursday 21 March
Deadline for submission of Election address	As soon as possible, no later than 12 noon – Friday 5 April
Close of nominations	4pm – Friday 5 April
Notification of appointment of election agents	4pm – Friday 5 April
Publication of statement of persons nominated	4pm – Monday 8 April
Deadline for applications to register to vote	Midnight – Tuesday 16 April
Deadline for new postal vote applications / changes to existing postal or proxy vote applications	5pm – Wednesday 17 April

Election timetable (cont'd)

Timetable process:	Deadline:
Publication of notice of poll/situation of polling stations	Wednesday 24 April
Deadline for applications for new proxy votes	5pm – Wednesday 24 April
Deadline for applications for a Voter Authority Certificate or Anonymous Elector's Document	5pm - Wednesday 24 April
Appointment of sub-agents, counting and polling agents	Thursday 25 April
Polling day	Thursday 2 May – 7am to 10pm
Deadline to apply for an emergency proxy	5pm –polling day
Replacement for lost/spoilt postal votes ends	5pm – polling day
Alterations to register to correct clerical error	9pm – polling day
Return of election expenses to the PARO	+ 70 days from result

Qualifications

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

Disqualifications

Disqualifications that apply only on election:

- Being a Member of the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament, the Senedd, 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.

Disqualifications

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

- 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

The nomination papers

- Three nomination papers must be submitted by all candidates by **4pm – Friday 5 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 – Friday 5 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)

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

Submitting nomination papers

- Nomination papers should be delivered to Allerdale House, Workington, CA14 3YJ.
- Informal checks will be offered, please contact the team to make an appointment to have your nomination checked prior to submission.

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, or electronic transfer. Payment details are in the candidates pack. Funds can take a few days to clear so please make payment early as funds must be in place by 4pm on 5 April.
- The deposit is returned if a candidate polls at least 5% of the valid votes cast across the police area.

Completing nomination papers

- Take care when completing your nomination papers, as mistakes may invalidate your nomination
- Complete nomination papers early and arrange for us to provide an informal check
- The nomination form, home address form and consent to nomination **must be delivered by hand** and cannot be submitted by post, fax, email or other electronic means

Nomination form

- Include your full name
- Optional: use commonly used name box(es) if commonly known by a name other than your full name and wish to use it instead.

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

Nomination form

- Required number of subscribers
 - 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.
 - Data protection requirements

Home address form

- Candidates' home addresses will appear on the ballot paper and 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 the 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).
- The certificate may:
 - allow the use of the party name or a particular description
 - allow candidate to choose whether to use the party name or any of the descriptions registered with the Electoral Commission
- It must be submitted to the PARO by the same deadlines as the other nomination papers, i.e. by **4pm Friday 5 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 Friday 5 April 2024.

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
- You will need to submit the statement directly to the online system
- The PARO will review your submission to check it meets the legal requirements
- If you would like an election address included on the website, please request a logon link from the PARO

Election agent

- Responsible for the proper management of your election campaign; particularly its financial management.
- Notification of appointment must reach the PARO by **4pm – Friday 5 April**. Form is included in nomination pack.
- You will become your own agent by default if none is appointed.

Sub-agents

The election agent may appoint sub-agents to act on their behalf in the police area:

- areas of appointment must not overlap
- can attend proceedings instead of the election agent

The agent must give written notice to the PARO by Thursday 25 April

Other agents

Other agents can be appointed to attend postal vote opening, polling stations and the count on your behalf:

- You must give notice in writing of any people appointed as polling and counting agents by **Thursday 25 April**.
- 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.

Access to electoral register / lists of absent voters

- Access by candidates – once you officially become a candidate
 - earliest, you can become a candidate is 26 March
- Make written request to the EROs in the police area – forms are included in your nomination pack.
Only use data for permitted purposes:
 - to complete the nomination form
 - to help you campaign
 - to check that donations/loans are permissible

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 Tuesday 16 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 ERO.

Absent voting applications

- Highlight that electors can now apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote or www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote
- When talking to electors about applying to vote by post or proxy, you should make them aware of the relevant deadlines and advise them to apply early
- You will need to make them aware that they will need to provide their National Insurance number, date of birth, signature and address to register.
- People who do not have / cannot retrieve their National Insurance Number or cannot provide a signature can still apply, but they may need to provide further information. If so, they will be contacted by the ERO.
- If you are encouraging people to apply for a postal (or proxy) vote, make sure you explain that they will only qualify for one if they are (or will be) registered in time to vote at the elections.

Absent voting - campaigners

- Campaigners cannot handle postal votes for other electors who are not close relatives or someone for whom they provide regular care
- Campaigners may handle postal voting documents if that's a feature of a job they hold (e.g. a postal worker)
- New limits on the number of postal votes that can be handed in – a maximum of five plus their own for each poll

Absent voting – Who is a campaigner?

A campaigner is:

- a candidate at the election(s)
- an election agent (or sub-agent)
- employed by the candidate (for the purposes of the candidate's activities at the election)
- a member of a registered political party who is carrying out activity to promote a particular outcome at an election
- someone employed by a registered political party in connection with that party's political activities

Voter Identification

- Voters in this election will need to provide a form of accepted photographic ID if they wish to vote in person at a polling station.
- Voters will be able to present out of date photographic ID so long as the photograph is still a good likeness.
- If a voter fails to present a form of accepted photographic ID they will not be issued with a ballot paper.
- This includes those who act as a proxy for another person.

Accepted forms of Voter ID

- Voters should be encouraged to check whether they have one of the forms of accepted photographic ID well in advance of the election
- If a voter does not have an accepted form of photographic ID, they can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate either online <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate> or using a paper application form.
- Electors who are registered anonymously must have an Elector's Document to vote in person
- Any applications must be received by the ERO by 5pm on 24th April.

Accepted forms of Voter ID (1)

International travel

Passport (issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country)
Irish Passport Card

Driving and Parking

Driving licence
(issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state)

A Blue Badge

Accepted forms of Voter ID (2)

Local travel

Older Person's bus pass
funded by the UK
government

Disabled Person's bus
pass funded by the UK
government

Oyster 60+ Card funded
by the UK government

Freedom pass

Scottish National

Entitlement card for the
purpose of concessionary
travel

60 and Over Welsh
Concessionary Travel
Card

Disabled person's
Welsh Concessionary
Travel Card

Senior SmartPass
issued in NI

Registered Blind
SmartPass or Blind
Person's SmartPass

issued in NI

War Disablement

SmartPass issued in NI

60+ SmartPass issued
in NI

Half Fare SmartPass
issued in NI

Accepted forms of Voter ID (3)

Proof of age

Identity card bearing the
Proof of Age Standards
Scheme hologram (a
PASS card)

Other Government issued documents

Biometric immigration
document

Ministry of Defence
Form 90 (Defence
Identify Card)
Nationality identity card
issued by an EEA state
Electoral Identity Card
issued in Northern
Ireland
Voter Authority
Certificate
Anonymous Elector's
Document

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)
- Do not handle any postal voting documents you are not entitled to

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
 - Ensure electors are aware they can apply to register or for an absent vote online
 - Include the EROs address for the return of any paper 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
- Voter Authority Certificate applications:
 - Should not handle paper based Voter Authority Certificate applications and should encourage electors to send them directly to the ERO

Code of conduct for campaigners

- Postal voting documents:
 - Never touch any of an elector's postal voting documents
 - 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
- Office open 6am to 10pm 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 10pm can apply for a ballot paper
- Voters in this election will need to present photographic ID in the polling station
- Voters can request to have their ID checked in private

Completed postal votes handed in to polling stations

- PFCC Postal votes can be handed into polling stations within the voting area.
- Anyone returning postal votes by hand must complete a postal vote return form, otherwise the postal votes will be rejected.
- Polling station staff may assist anyone wishing to hand in postal votes to complete the relevant form .
- An individual may hand in a maximum of 6 electors' postal votes (their own and five others) per poll .
- If the individual is a campaigner they may only handle their own postal vote and those that belong to close family members or people for whom they provide care.
- Polling station staff will not be able to provide advice about whether someone is a campaigner, but they may reject postal votes if they have reasonable cause to believe an individual is a campaigner.
- If postal votes are handed in not in accordance with the rules, then they will be rejected.

Completed postal votes handed in to council buildings

- Restrictions on the numbers of returned postal votes and who may hand in postal votes are the same as for polling stations
- An individual may hand in a maximum of 6 electors' postal votes (their own and five others) per poll
- Postal votes may be returned by hand to one of the main Council Buildings - Market Hall, Whitehaven, Allerdale House, Workington or Civic Centre, Carlisle
- Staff authorised by the Returning Officer may assist anyone wishing to hand in postal votes to complete the relevant form
- Postal votes dropped off to reception or other council office desks or locations or any posted into council letter boxes without completing the postal vote return form will be rejected and will not be counted

The Voting system

- The Police and Crime Commissioner elections are now held under the first-past-the post electoral system

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 and Count
 - Each LRO is responsible for verifying the votes in their area
 - Five venues across Cumbria, details are provided in the candidates pack

Timings dependent on whether a Parliamentary Election takes place on the same day. We will confirm timings with Candidates once this is known.

Result collation and declaration of the result

- PARO is responsible for collating the local count totals from across the police area and declaring the result
 - The results will be collated at Whitehaven Sports Centre.
- Attendance at the collation hub:
 - 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 Tuesday 26 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 **£98,900**
- Comprehensive guidance is included in 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

Contacts

Contacts

- PARO Elections office –
- Allerdale House, New Bridge Road, Workington, CA14 3YJ
- elections@cumberland.gov.uk
- Stephanie Shaw – 07917 506236

- Electoral Commission contacts
 - For questions on the Commission's guidance on standing for election, contact infoengland@electoralcommission.org.uk
 - 0333 103 1928
 - www.electoralcommission.org.uk/contact-us/our-offices
 - For questions on election spending, contact 020 7271 0616

Police and Fire Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

- Constabulary – ACC Dave Stalker
david.stalker@cumbria.police.uk

Integrity Issues

- Fire - Mark Clement
mark.clement@cumbriafire.gov.uk

Questions

Thank you



TO DELIVER AN OUTSTANDING POLICE SERVICE TO
KEEP CUMBRIA SAFE

Policing in Cumbria
7 March 2024
Chief Constable Rob
Carden



Overview

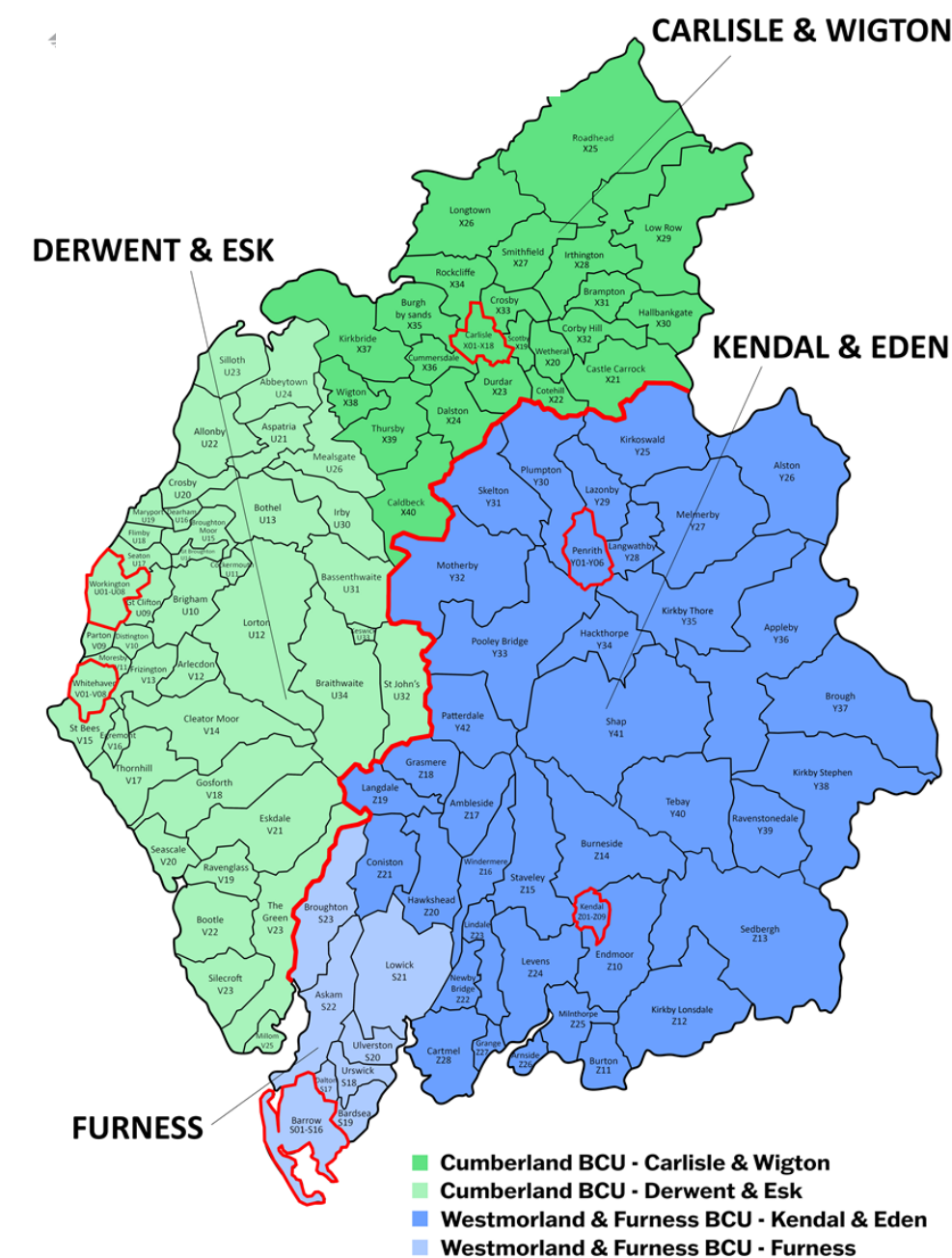
- 2,613 square miles (4th largest police force for area)
- 74% rural, 56 LSOA's in 20% of most deprived in England
- Smallest population (c.500,000) outside City of London
- Transient population – 50 million
- Budget c.£147 million v Savings of c.£16m in 5 years
- Local Government Reform 2023 (2 Unitary Authorities)
- Operational Challenges (Op Leaf / fatal discharge)
- West Cumbria Coal Mine, Sellafield, BAE
- Vulnerability to natural disasters
- Good force (HMICFRS assessment)

1376
Police
Officers

169 + 17 +
12
Uplift

692
Police
Staff

109
Volunteers



Key Areas of Progress and Achievement



- Force Re-Structure (BCU Model & 2.5 extra C/Supts) & post implementation review
- Corporate Governance Framework
- Performance Framework (impact of Pacesetters)
- Leadership – Senior Officers' Visibility Rota
- Dedicated Roads Policing and Firearms Dept
- PSD Governance Board
- Neighbourhood Model
- Shift Reviews
- Crime Allocation Policy
- Mark 43 & Single Online Home
- Investigations (e.g. Op Leaf & Op Amsterdam)
- Introduction of 4Cs & Roadshows
- Changes to the Chief Officer Team
- Leadership Strategy
- PDR Review
- Review of Promotion Processes
- Dedicated Rural Crime Team
- Savings & Efficiency Plan
- Enabling Services Review
- Bluelight Collaboration
- Chief's Promise
- National influence (DDATCC, Response Portfolio, Digital Academy, MOSOVO, Performance Portfolio)



Key Developments



WHY WE ARE HERE

TO DELIVER AN OUTSTANDING POLICE SERVICE TO **KEEP CUMBRIA SAFE**

WHAT WE DO

 CONTEMPT FOR CRIMINALITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">Respond to reports of crimeInvestigate crime professionallyTake positive action to deal with suspectsIncrease the number of convictions	 COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Answer and respond to calls promptly and professionallyIdentify risk and vulnerabilityTreat victims with courtesy and respectKeep victims informed	 COMMUNITY FOCUS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Visible and accessible policing presenceWork with communities and partners to prevent crime and solve problemsEngage with vulnerable people and communitiesReduce the number of people who are killed or seriously injured on our roads	 CARE FOR COLLEAGUES <ul style="list-style-type: none">Visible and positive leadershipProvide staff with training and equipmentImprove the welfare and wellbeing of ALL our staffRecognise excellence and address underperformance
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HOW WE DO IT

FOCUS ON WHAT COMMUNITIES WANT	EXCELLENCE IN 'THE BASICS'	POSITIVE LEADERSHIP	INNOVATION & PREVENTION
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OUR STANDARDS & VALUES

PUBLIC SERVICE	INTEGRITY	INCLUSIVITY	INDUSTRY
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CONTEMPT FOR CRIMINALITY



COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS



COMMUNITY FOCUS



CARE FOR COLLEAGUES

Key Crime Performance (FYTD)



94.5% of 999 and 96.1% of 101 calls
answered in target



89% of G1 and 92.8% of G2 incidents
attended in target



Stop search
Increased by 106%



Arrests
Increased by 9.8%



All Crime
Reduced by 8.4%

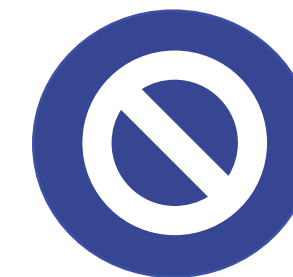


Positive outcomes
Increased by 5.0pp
(19.2%, up from 14.2%)
Jan 2024 rate is 21%

Highest positive outcome in
MSG significantly and above
national average



Public Order
Reduced by 27%



Violence
against the person
Reduced by 9.9%



**Arson and Criminal
Damage**
Reduced by 12.6%



Burglary
Reduced by 16.7%



Sexual Offences
Reduced by 11.1%

“The best time to go is when you are at the top and performance in Cumbria has never been so good”

Work in Progress

- HMICFRS feedback
- Sunday 25th February - Senior Officers' Development Moves
- Savings & Efficiency Plan
- Enabling Services Review (ACC v ACO, rebalance portfolios etc)
- Mark 43 - Phase 1 (October 2024)
- Leadership Strategy
- Organisational Culture - Continuous Improvement/High Performing Teams
- Staff Engagement & Internal Communications

Questions?

Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service

PFCC Candidate Briefing

Chief Fire Officer Rick Ogden



Introduction

- People
- Stations
- Vehicles
- Activity



People

220 Wholetime firefighters

450 On-call firefighters

77 Corporate staff

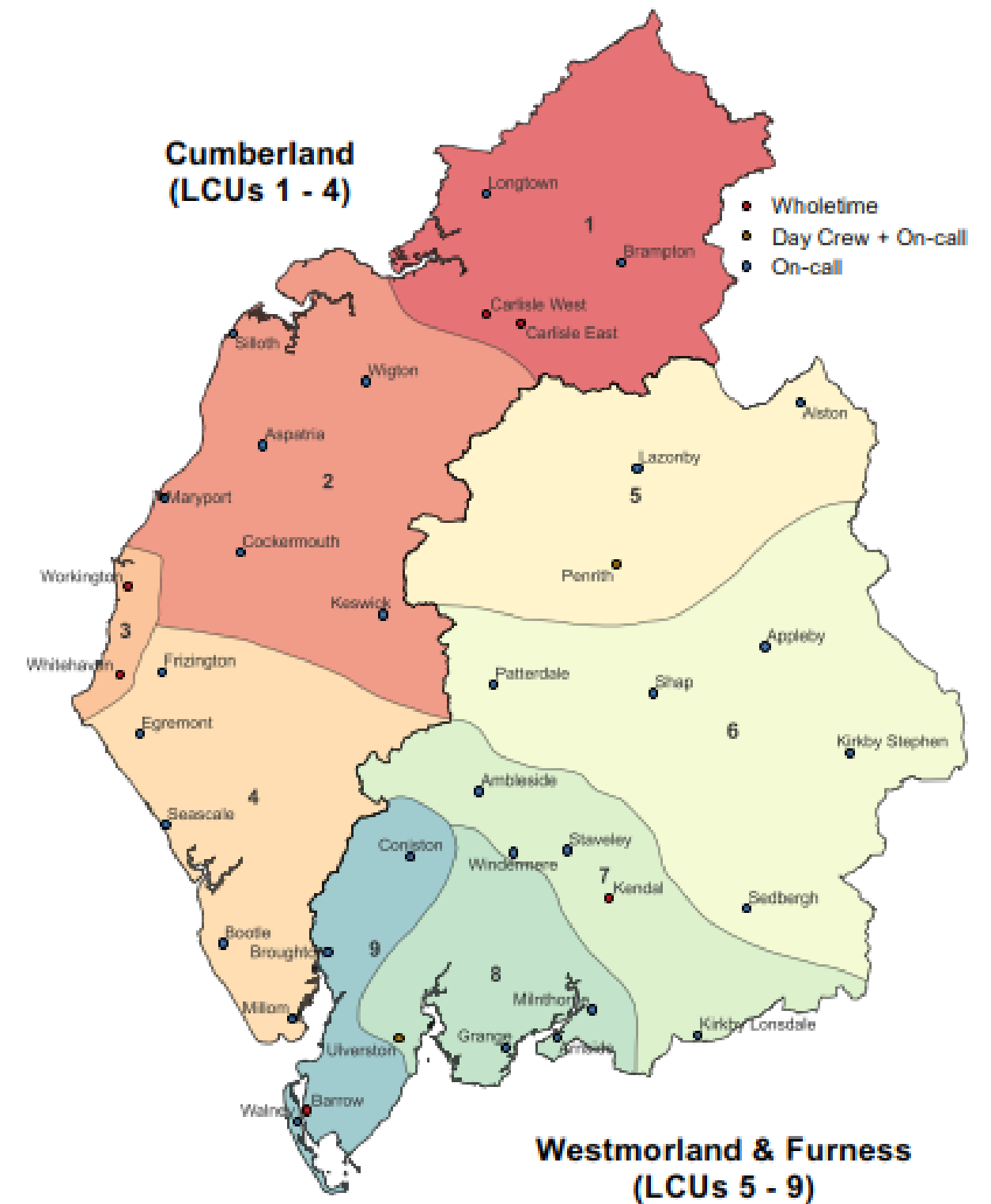


Stations

6 **Wholetime**

2 **Day Duty / On-call**

30 **On-call**



Appliances

45 Fire Appliances

Multiple special appliances

Over 50 Light fleet

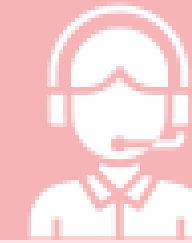


Activity

Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service 2022-23

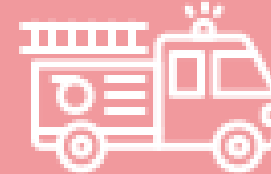
Special services calls

1,559



All Emergencies

5,060



Fire Safety Audits

826



Fire

1,268



Road awareness Training

149



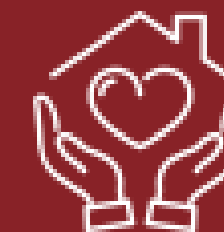
Road Traffic Collision

244



Safe and Well Visits

9,807





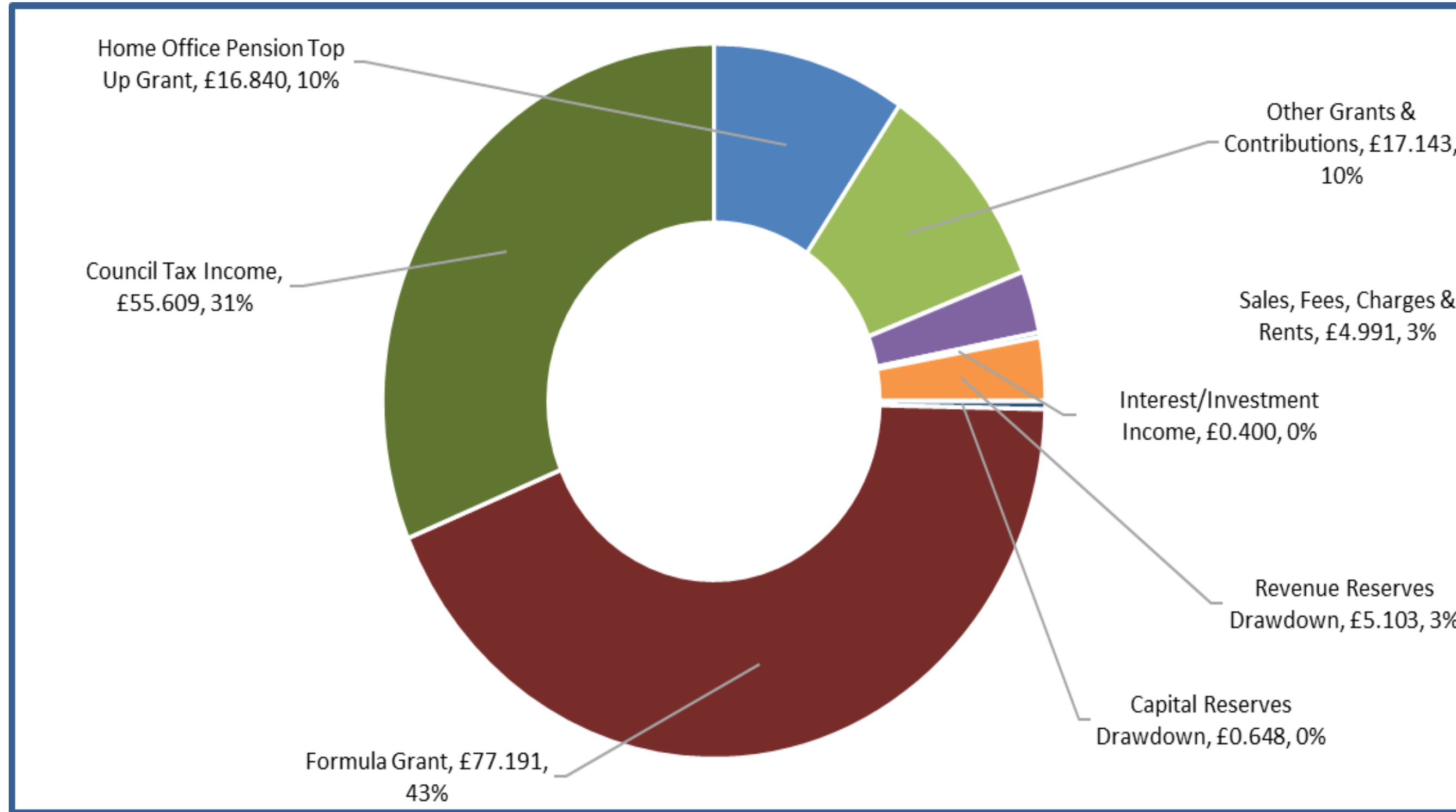
The Financial Context

Steven Tickner
Chief Finance Officer

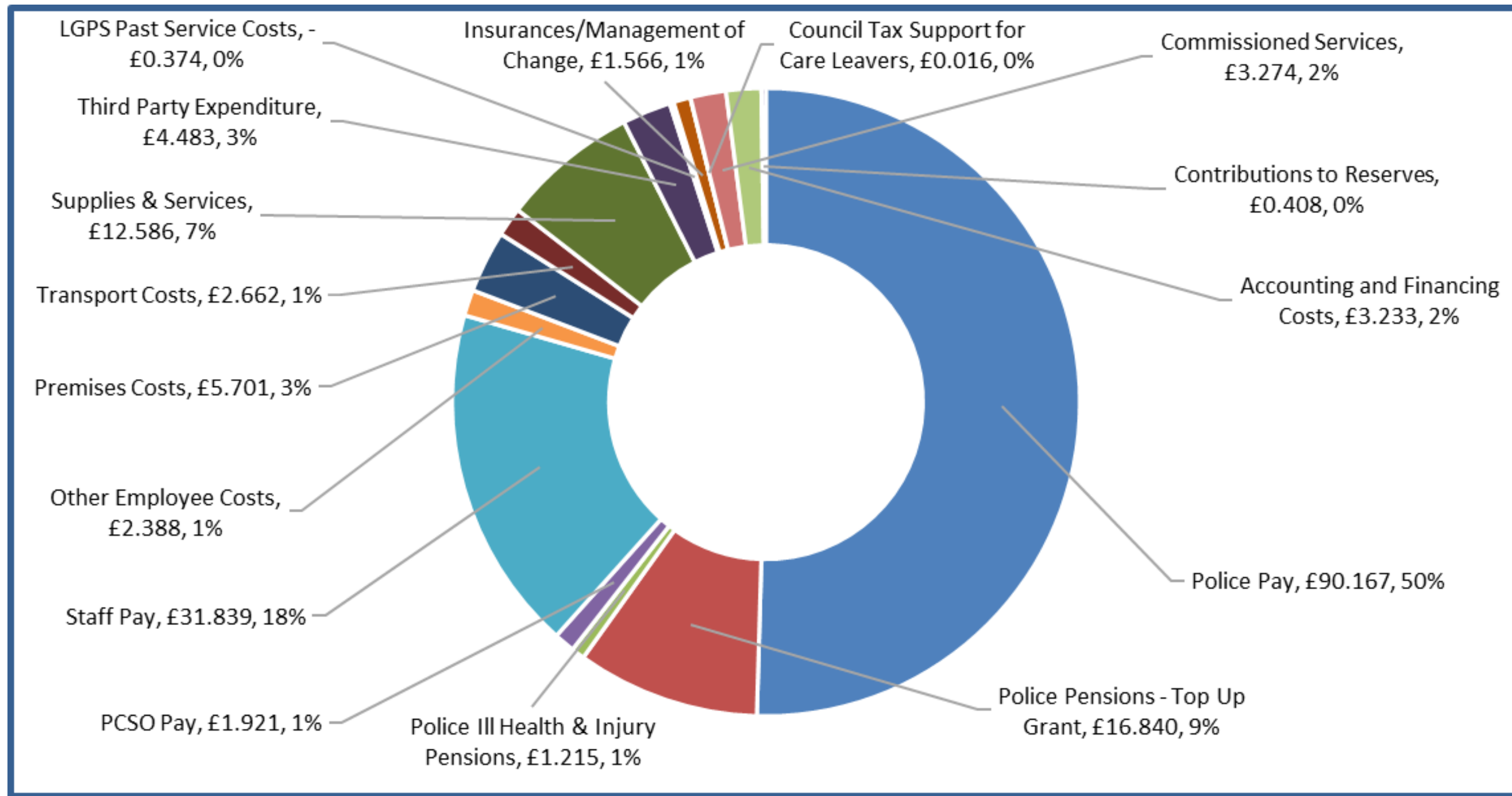
Making Cumbria even safer



Where Does the Money Come From (£177.563m) ?



Where is the Money Spent (£177.563m)?

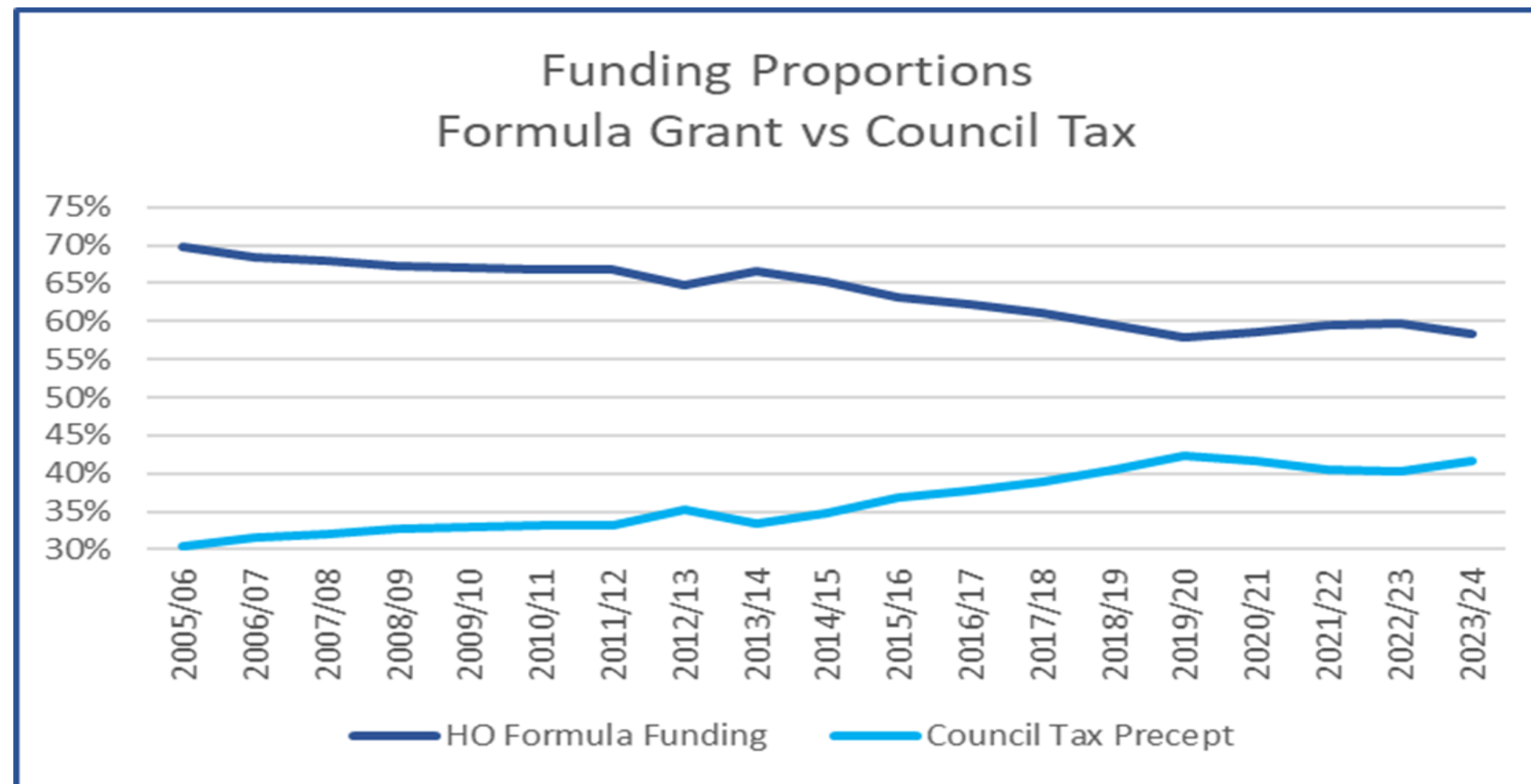


Overall Budget 2024/25 and Forecasts to 2028/29

	2023/24 £000s	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s
Commissioner's Budgets	(13,360)	(19,871)	(19,591)	(16,487)	(15,542)	(14,051)
Constabulary Funding	144,057	158,014	161,537	166,341	171,267	175,722
Movement to /(from) Revenue Reserves	(3,742)	(4,807)	(3,787)	(2,163)	7	46
Movement to /(from) Capital Reserves	(1,998)	(536)	0	(975)	0	0
Net Budget Requirement	124,957	132,800	138,159	146,717	155,732	161,717
Funding						
Formula Grants/Funding	(72,875)	(77,191)	(77,963)	(78,743)	(79,530)	(80,325)
Council Tax	(52,082)	(55,609)	(58,025)	(60,434)	(62,886)	(65,381)
Net Cumulative Budget Deficit / Savings Requirement	0	0	2,172	7,540	13,315	16,011

Funding Settlement

- The split over recent years has changed, as PFCCs have been given more **'Freedom'** to raise more funding locally.
- Net PFCC/CC budget requirement of £133m funded by:
 - HO Formula Funding
From 70% ↘ 58% £77m
 - Council Tax Precept
From 30% ↗ 42% £56m

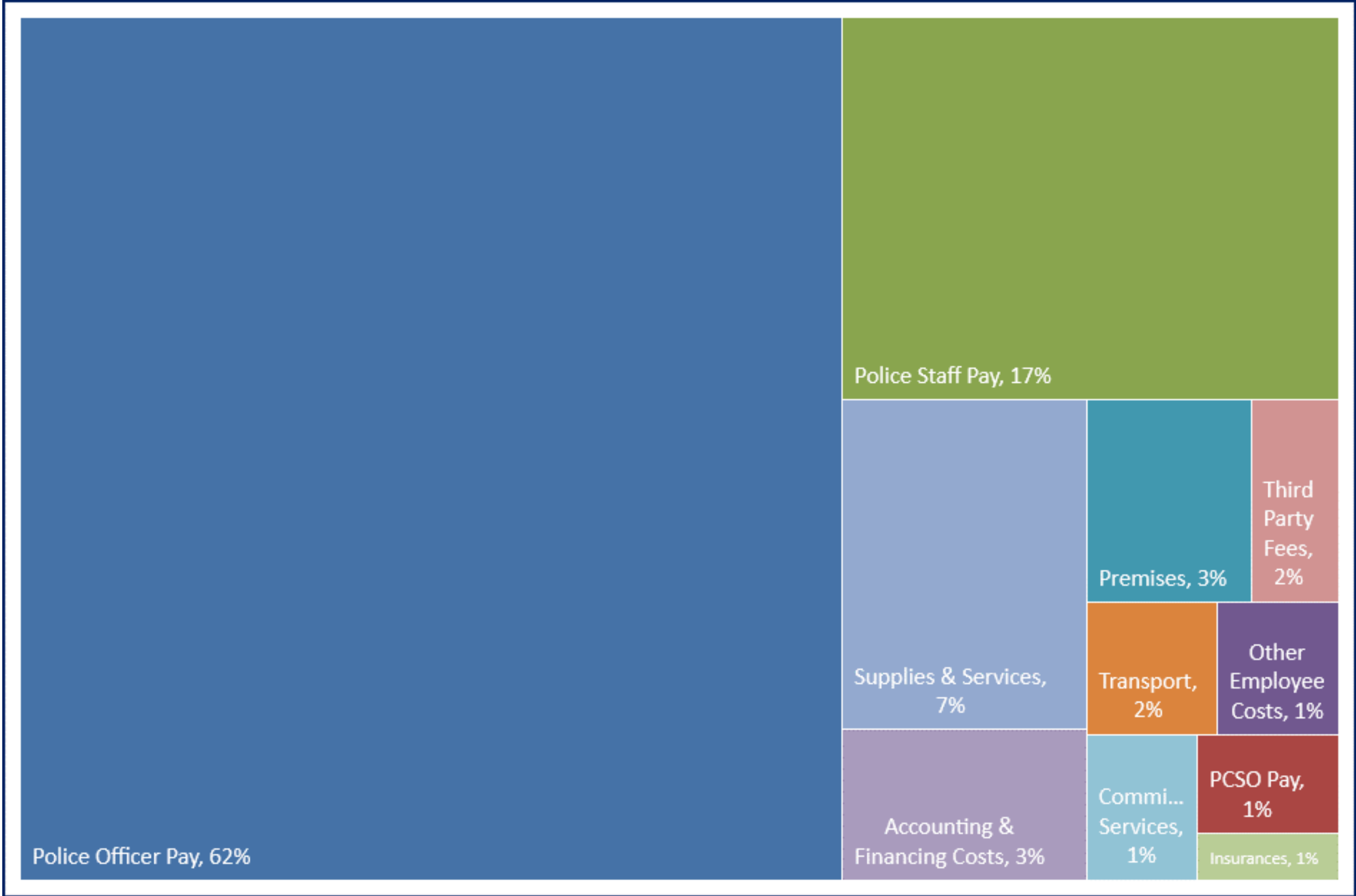


The Grant Settlement 2024/25

HO Grant	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	Change £000s	Change %
Core Grant	75.638	77.191	1.6	2.1%
Specific Ringfenced Grants				
Ringfenced PUP Grant	2.319	3.584	1.3	54.5%
Additional Recruitment Top Up	0.000	0.816	0.8	100.0%
Legacy Council Tax Grant	4.850	4.850	0.0	0.0%
Pensions Grant	1.174	3.804	2.6	223.9%
Total Specific Ringfenced Grant	8.343	13.054	4.7	0.565
Total HO Funding	83.982	90.245	6.3	7.5%

£4.7m of increased grant is ringfenced (not in core grant) and is directly linked to associated spend pressures.

Where is the Money Spent ?



Capital Expenditure

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

Council Tax Precept

- Band D precept of £310.05 for 2024/25, an increase of £12.96 per annum.
- The medium-term plans currently assume annual council tax increases of £9.99 pa for the remainder of the four-year Medium Term Financial 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, Fire and Crime Panel and consultation with the Chief Constable.

Financial Risks

- Inflation
- Operation Uplift – successful recruitment of 169 FTE additional officers as part of operation uplift by 31/03/23. Ringfenced funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25 (not yet incorporated into core grant = risk!)
- Pensions issues
- Police Funding Formula Review
- Achievement of savings

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, Fire 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)

Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service

Budget Briefing

7th March 2024

Steven Tickner – Chief Finance Officer (S.151)

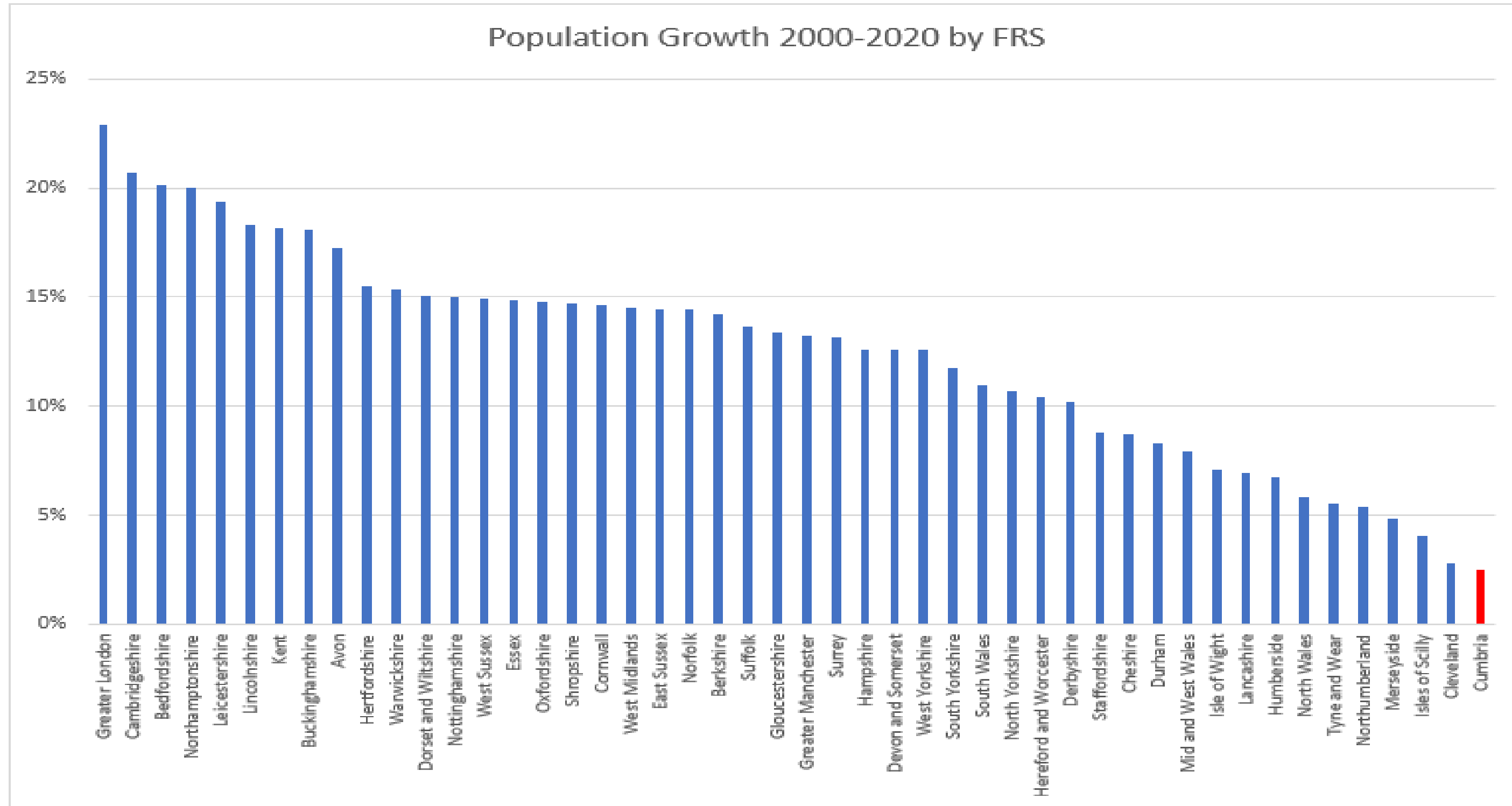


Core Spending Power

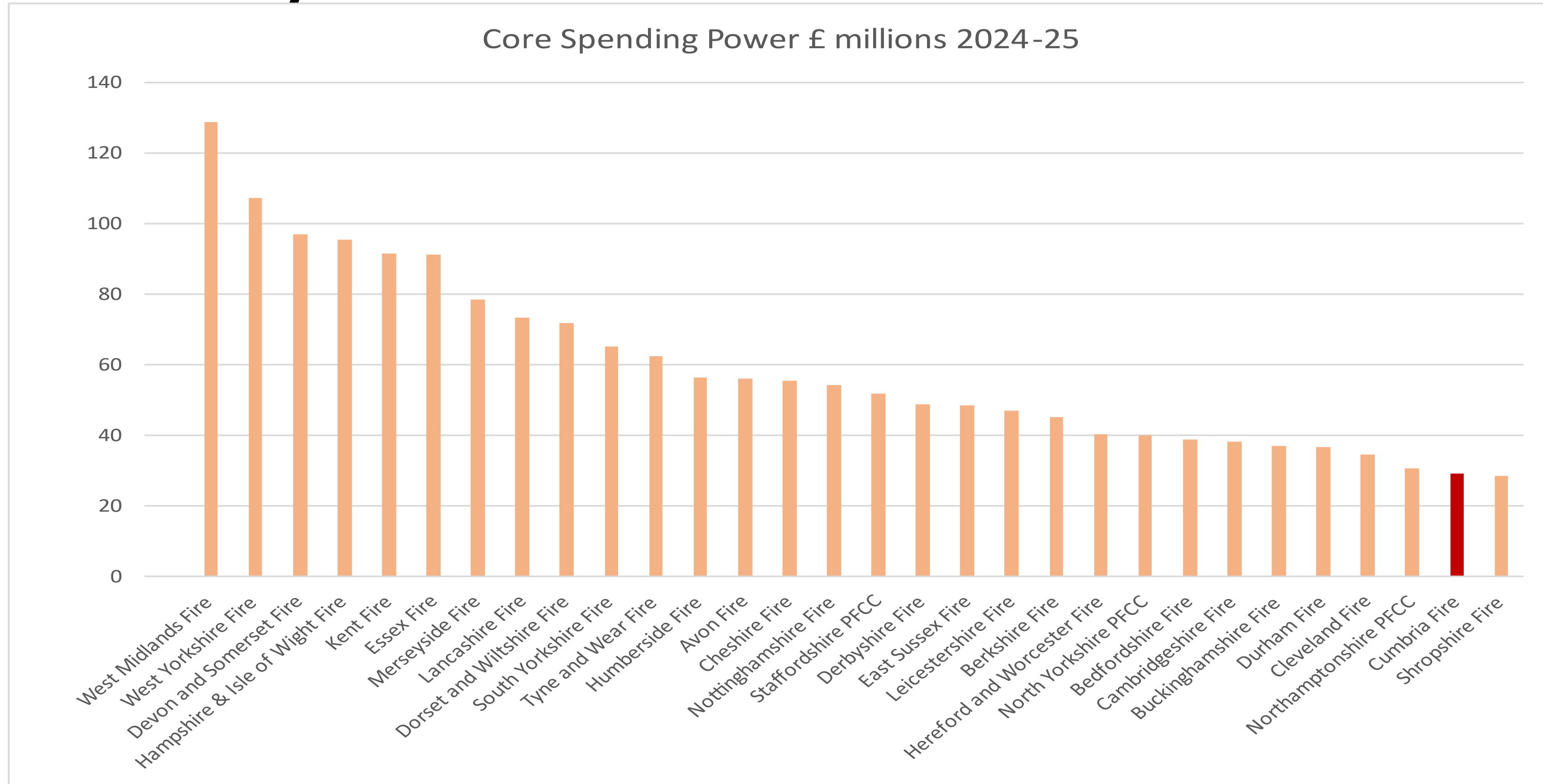
	2024-25 £000
Settlement Funding Assessment	10,772,763
Revenue Support Grant	3,423,982
Fire Pensions Grant	1,255,332
Total RSG	4,679,314
Expected' Baseline Funding Level	6,093,449
Tariff/Top-up	4,065,189
Expected Share of Business Rates	2,028,260
Compensation for under-indexing the business rates multiplier	1,207,823
Assumed Council Tax Income	16,542,652
Rural Services Delivery Grant	473,104
Services Grant	48,878
Funding Guarantee	459,407
Government assessed 'Core Spending Power'	29,504,627



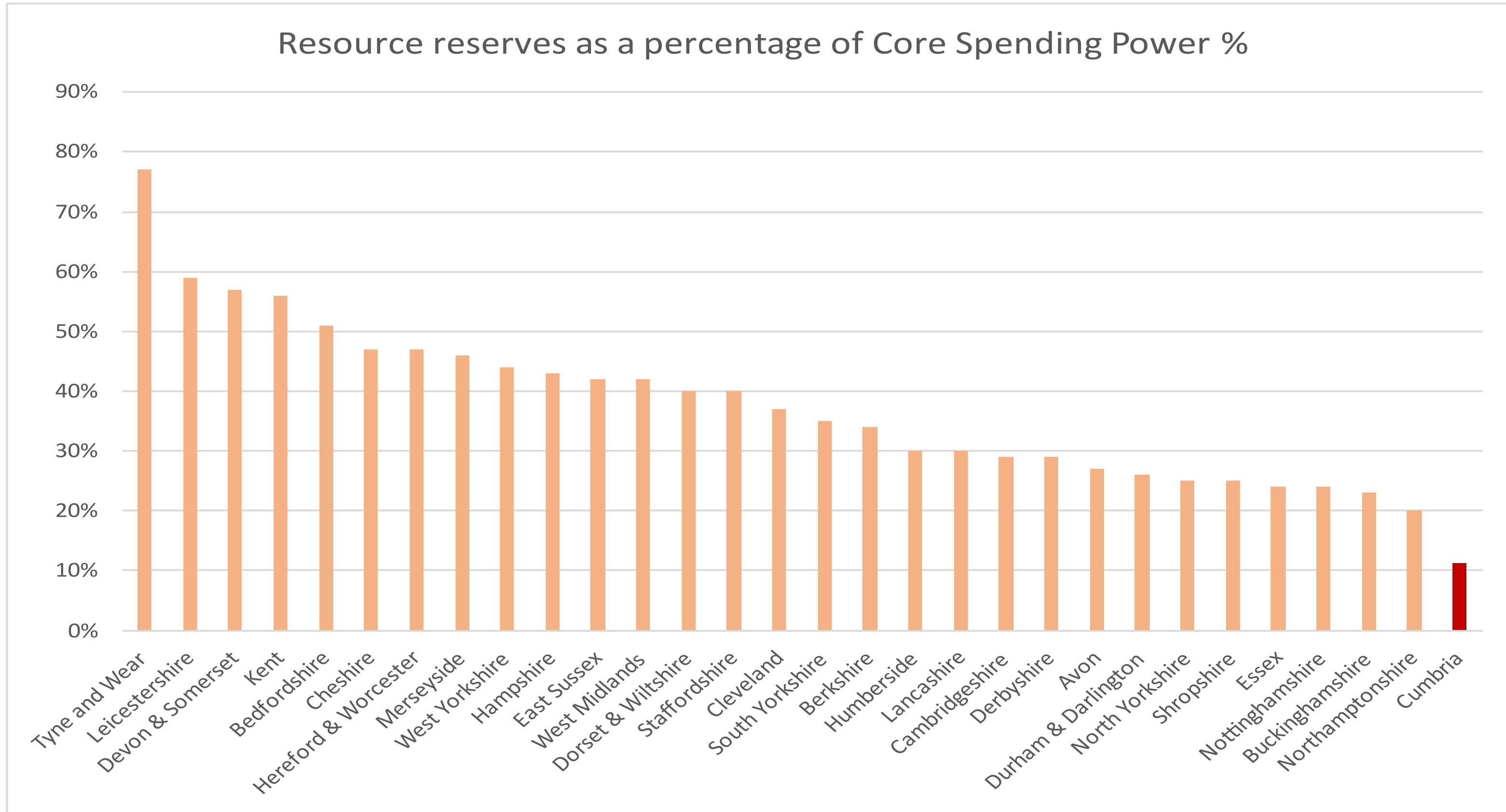
Core Spending Power – 2024/25



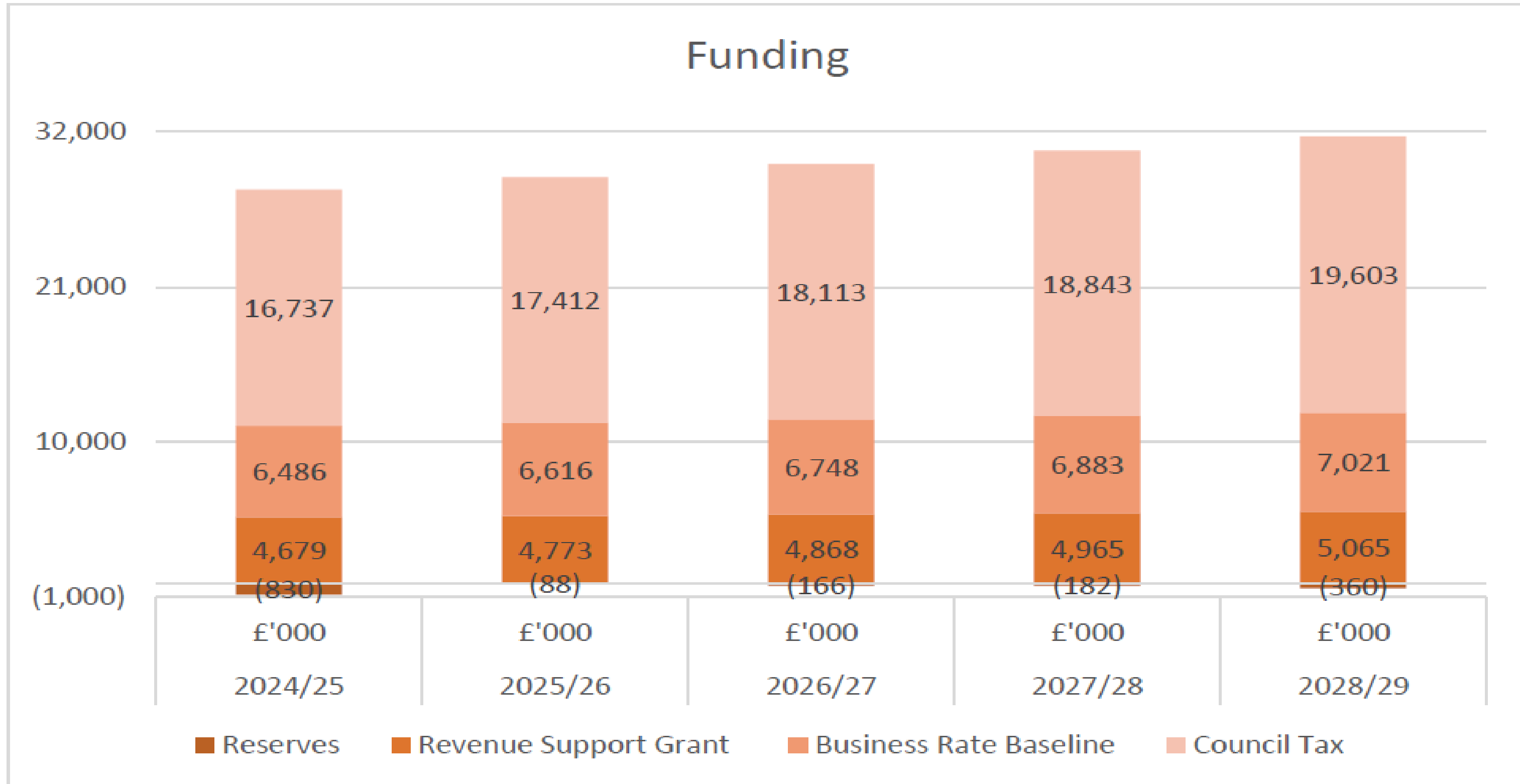
Core Spending Power – 2024/25



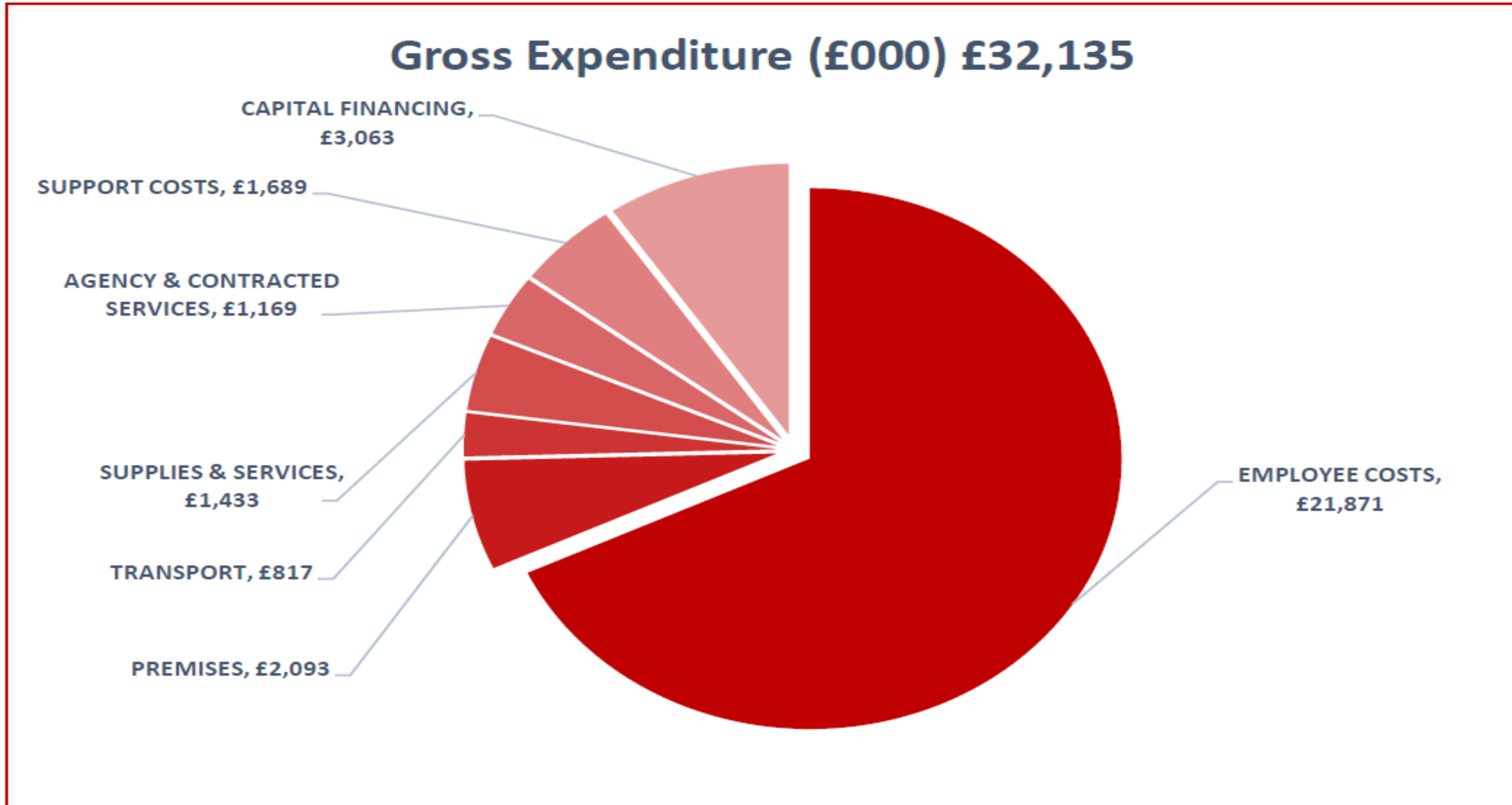
Reserves



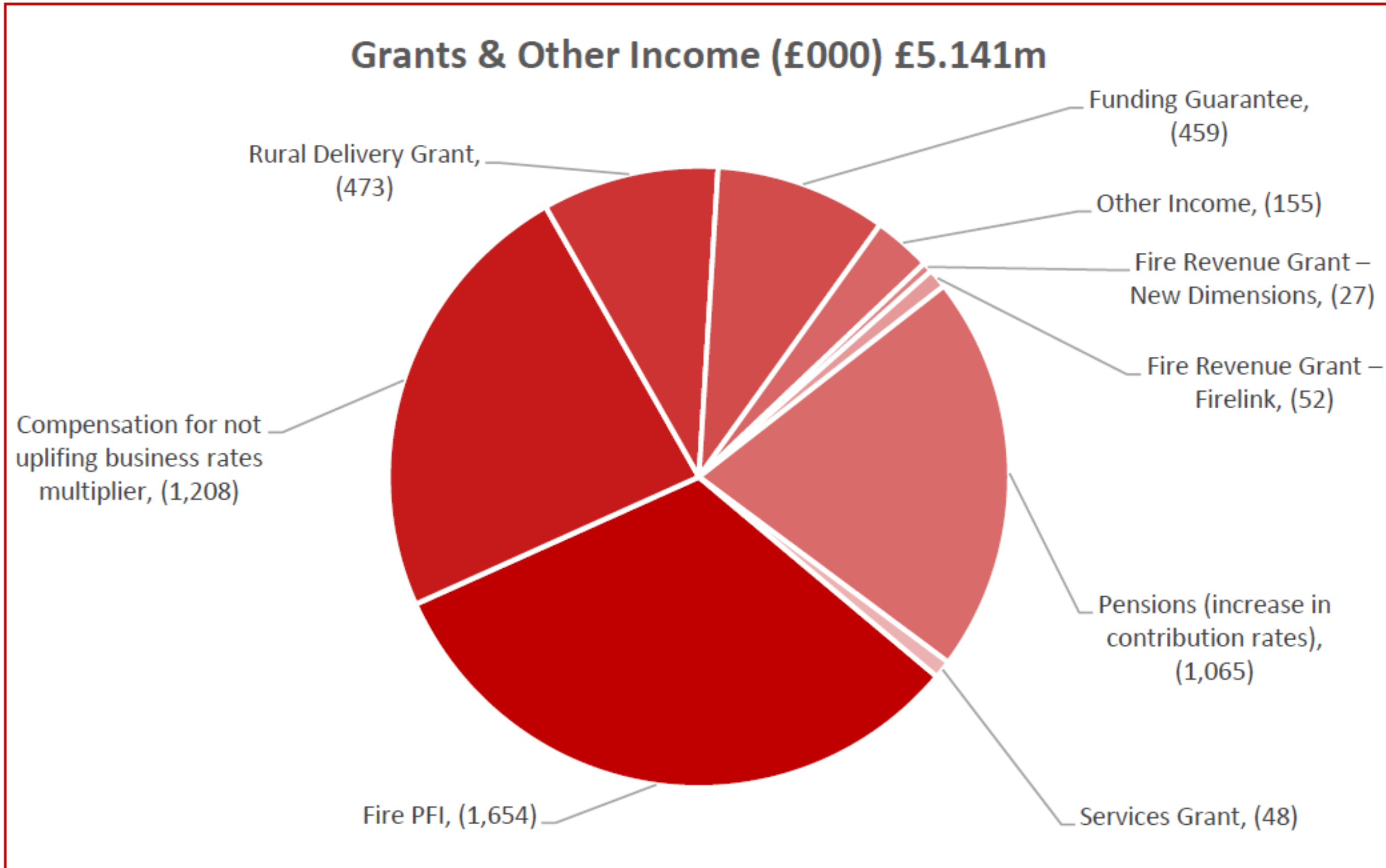
Funding - £27.824m



Gross Expenditure - £32.135m

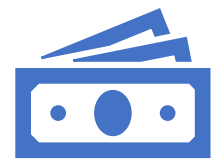


Grants and Other Income - £5.141m



Capital Programme

Capital Scheme		2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000
<u>Revised Allocations:</u>						
Fleet		1,436	1,348	1,856	1,411	938
Estates		1,065	450	501	872	482
ICT		434	710	494	350	350
Equipment / PPE		210	175	295	295	295
Total Spending Proposals		3,145	2,683	3,146	2,928	2,065



Key Financial Risks

- Stand alone Service – Service Level Agreements
- Low Level of Reserves
- Inflationary Pressures – especially pay awards
- Major Incidents – financially resilient to respond
- Major Litigation / Insurance Claims
- Capital Investment funded by borrowing requirement
- Pensions Remedies
- Government Funding and Council Tax Assumptions