

# THE CHIEF CONSTABLE OF NORFOLK CONSTABULARY

# **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

31 March 2021 DRAFT

## Statement of Accounts

# for the year ended 31 March 2021

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE CHIEF CONSTABLE FOR NORFOLK

# Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

# The Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary's Responsibilities

The Chief Constable must:

- Arrange for the proper administration of the Chief Constable's financial affairs and ensure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. That officer is the Chief Finance Officer of the Chief Constable.
- Manage its affairs to ensure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- Approve the Statement of Accounts;
- Ensure that there is an adequate Annual Governance Statement.

### **Approval of Statement of Accounts**

I approve the following Statement of Accounts:

**Paul Sanford** 

Temporary Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary

# The Chief Finance Officer (CFO) of the Chief Constable Responsibilities

The Chief Constable's CFO is responsible for preparing the Statement of Accounts for the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom based on International Financial Reporting Standards ("the Code").

In preparing this statement of accounts, the CFO of the Chief Constable has:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the Code and its application to local authority accounting.

The CFO of the Chief Constable has also:

- Kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Certified by the Chief Finance Officer of the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary

I certify that this statement of accounts has been prepared in accordance with proper accounting practice and presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary at 31 March 2021, and its income and expenditure for the year to that date.

Peter Jasper ACMA, Assistant Chief Officer

## **Narrative Report**

### Introduction

This Narrative Report provides information about Norfolk Constabulary, including the key issues affecting its accounts. It also provides a summary of the financial position at 31 March 2021 and is structured as below:

- 1. The policing context for Norfolk
- 2. Impact of the governance arrangements on the Financial Statements of the PCC and Chief Constable
- 3. Explanation of the Financial Statements
- 4. The 2020/21 revenue and capital budget process
- 5. Financial performance
- 6. Non-financial performance
- 7. Impact of Covid-19 pandemic and Exiting the EU
- 8. Funding Settlement 2021/22 and beyond
- 1. The policing context for Norfolk

### Information about the Office of the Chief Constable of Norfolk

Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk (PCC) and the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary were established as separate legal entities. Corporate governance arrangements for the PCC and Chief Constable have been reviewed and a commentary on their effectiveness is set out in the joint Annual Governance Statement for the PCC and Chief Constable which is published alongside these Statements of Accounts.

The responsibilities of the Chief Constable, determined by the Act, include:

- Supporting the PCC in the delivery of the strategy and objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan;
- Assisting the PCC in planning the force's budget;

- Having regard to the Strategic Policing Requirement when exercising and planning their policing functions in respect of their Force's national and international policing responsibilities;
- Being the operational voice of policing in the force area and regularly explaining to the public the operational actions of officers and staff under their command;
- Entering into collaboration agreements with other Chief Constables, other policing bodies and partners that improve the efficiency or effectiveness of policing and with the agreement of their respective PCC;
- Remaining politically independent of their PCC;
- Exercising the power of direction and control in such a way as is reasonable to enable their PCC to have access to all necessary information and staff with the force;
- Having day to day responsibility for financial management of the force within the framework of the agreed budget allocation and levels of authorisation issued by the PCC.

For accounting purposes, the PCC for Norfolk is the parent entity of the Chief Constable of Norfolk and together they form the PCC for Norfolk Group.

### The County of Norfolk

Norfolk is the fifth largest county in England with a land area of 2,074 square miles with approximately 100 miles of coastline. The estimated population of Norfolk in 2021 is 918,800 (source: Norfolk insight). 93% of Norfolk's land area is classed as rural and is reflected by the Police and Crime Plan priority to tackle crime within rural communities. Although such a large proportion of land is rural, 51% of the population lives in an urban area (mid-2019 estimates). The four main urban areas are Norwich, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford.

Norfolk has a much older age profile than England as a whole, with 25% of the population aged 65 and older compared with 18% in England (2019 estimate). Over the next twenty years there is a projected growth of 83,500 people in Norfolk

and the population is aging, with those aged over 65 making up 31% of the population  $^{1}$ .

Norfolk is a popular tourist destination, and in 2018 the county received 3.1m overnight visitors and 47.8m day trips were made. Norfolk's visitor economy in 2018 was calculated at £3.34bn, with the transient populations associated with tourism impacting on the policing of Norfolk to varying extents at different times of the year. The number of jobs in the county's tourism sector in 2018 was 67,000, accounting for 19% of all employment<sup>2</sup>, whilst other significant employers in the Norfolk economy include the public sector, agriculture, retail and engineering. Norfolk Constabulary supports hundreds of events throughout the year, including Norwich City football matches, Norwich Pride, the Sundown music festival and numerous local carnivals and occasions. The outbreak of Covid-19 has seen a suspension of such events, however, many are planning to go ahead in the latter stages of 2021, creating a busy period that will be compounded by the predicted higher than usual influx of UK tourists.

There are areas of high flood risk within the county, namely Great Yarmouth, the Norfolk Broads, the outskirts of Norwich (River Yare) and the coastal areas of North Norfolk and King's Lynn. A further large area of West Norfolk is at medium to low risk of flooding. The road network in Norfolk comprises A and B roads with no motorways and is again reflected as a priority focus (to improve road safety) of the Police and Crime Plan. Both factors pose challenges, again impacting on the policing of the county.

### Change in demand caused by Covid-19

This financial year saw the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. This had a radical effect on demand for policing owing to changes in legislation and the impact of the changes to societal norms such as the periods of lockdown. On the one hand, through the lockdown periods certain crime types reduced, whilst on the other hand policing had to adapt to ensure that the communities were abiding by the short-

<sup>2</sup> https://mediafiles.thedms.co.uk/Publication/ee-

nor/cms/pdf/Economic%20Impact%20of%20Tourism%20-%20%20Norfolk%20Report%202018.pdf term changes to legislation and to ensure that Norfolk as a tourism hotspot was not inappropriately being visited.

All of this radical change had to be managed alongside the fact that the organisation had to deal with the risk of Covid-19 to the officers and staff delivering the service.

Norfolk Constabulary is proud of how it maintained the trust and confidence in its communities through the pandemic, and maintained its service throughout.

At the point of writing, we are slowly emerging from the pandemic towards the end of the financial year. Sadly, it is clear that the trends of increases in high harm, high complexity crimes has not abated. In addition, it is hoped there will be a return to normality as we reach the summer, the busiest period of demand for policing. Summer planning has been significant this year to increase the preventative work as much as possible and provide visible reassurance as society returns to normal, and perhaps a greater influx than usual of visitors is expected.

The Norfolk 2020 programme has concluded successfully. A Norfolk Horizons programme has launched that will focus on how best to deliver policing with the changes to recruitment and training of the Police Educational Qualification Framework, and how to maximise the opportunity that the National Uplift Programme of officers provides. Norfolk is scheduled to have gained more than 200 additional officers by the end of the next financial year (22/23). To date these have seen crucial additional numbers to counter the threat of county lines on our neighbourhoods as well as investments in detective roles and Operation Moonshot.

### Collaboration and partnership working

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 places duties on chief officers and policing bodies to keep collaboration activities under review and to collaborate where it is in the interests of the efficiency and effectiveness of their own and other police force areas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.norfolkinsight.org.uk/population/</u>

Norfolk Constabulary's preferred partner for collaboration is Suffolk Constabulary. A joint strategy exists which outlines the collaborative vision for Norfolk and Suffolk, and provides a strategic framework within which collaborative opportunities are progressed.

The two police forces have been collaborating for around a decade, with the programme of collaborative work delivering an extensive number of joint units and departments that encompasses most functions except local policing and includes areas such as major investigation, protective services, custody, and back office support functions. The partnership has also yielded significant savings for both forces and received praise from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

Areas of collaboration outside of Norfolk/Suffolk include the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU), a specialist unit with a remit for tackling serious and organised crime in the Eastern Region. ERSOU comprises resources from the following police forces: Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Kent.

There is also a 7Forces Strategic Collaboration Programme currently working on other areas for wider collaboration, convergence and savings. In January 2020 a 7Force Commercial Procurement team was fully implemented and is now overseeing all procurement activity across all the seven forces, making sure all opportunities for savings and efficiencies are exploited.

Norfolk is also part of a well-established 10 force consortium for insurance known as the South East and Eastern Regional Police Insurance Consortium (SEERPIC).

The Policing and Crime Act 2017 received Royal Assent on 31 January 2017. The Act includes a duty, in England, for emergency services to collaborate. It also gives enabling powers for PCCs in England to take responsibility for the governance of their local fire and rescue services.

Norfolk Constabulary and Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service continue to strengthen their working relationship with individual governance at this time. The Fire Control Room moved in alongside the Police Control Room and initiatives have been undertaken to ensure closer collaboration. A number of other collaborative working arrangements, such as sharing of estate have or are being worked on.

A Home Office Review was announced to take the form of two phases. The results of phase one were announced before the election and a consultation on mandating fire governance by the PCC was among the plans to be progressed after the election.

Phase two will be progressed and reported once the PCC elections are complete.

The Norfolk Office of the PCC and Norfolk Constabulary is committed to working in partnership with public, private and third sector agencies to tackle issues of crime and disorder. This is demonstrated through roles in critical partnership initiatives such as the Community Safety Partnership, Norfolk 180 and Early Help Hubs. Norfolk Constabulary is committed to finding long term sustainable solutions to problems of crime and disorder, working together with partners and the communities in an evidence-based problem-solving way and supporting innovation at a local level.

# 2. Impact of the Governance Arrangements on the Financial Statements of the PCC and Chief Constable

The International Accounting Standards Board framework states that assets, liabilities and reserves should be recognised when it is probable that any 'future' economic benefits associated with the item(s) will flow to, or from, the entity. The PCC has responsibility for the finances of the whole Group and controls the assets, liabilities and reserves. With the exception of the liabilities for employment and post-employment benefits, referred to later, this would suggest that these balances should be shown on the PCC's Balance Sheet.

The Scheme of Governance and Consent sets out the roles and responsibilities of the PCC and the Chief Constable, and also includes the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders. As per these governance documents, all contracts and bank accounts are in the name of the PCC. No consent has been granted to the Chief Constable to open bank accounts or hold cash or associated working capital assets or liabilities. This means that all cash, assets and liabilities in relation to working capital are the responsibility of the PCC, with all the control and risk also residing with the PCC. To this end, all working capital is shown in the accounts of

#### the PCC and the Group.

The PCC receives all income and makes all payments from the Police Fund for the Group and has responsibility for entering into contracts and establishing the contractual framework under which the Chief Constable's staff operates. The PCC has not set up a separate bank account for the Chief Constable, which reflects the fact that all income is paid to the PCC. The PCC has not made arrangements for the carry forward of balances or for the Chief Constable to hold cash backed reserves.

Therefore, the Chief Constable fulfils his statutory responsibilities for delivering an efficient and effective police force within an annual budget, which is set by the PCC. The Chief Constable ultimately has a statutory responsibility for maintaining the Queen's peace and to do this has direction and control over the force's police officers and police staff. It is recognised that in exercising day-to-day direction and control the Chief Constable will undertake activities, incur expenditure and generate income to allow the police force to operate effectively. It is appropriate that a distinction is made between the financial impact of this day-to-day direction and control of the force and the overarching strategic control exercised by the PCC.

Therefore, the expenditure and income associated with day-to-day direction and control and the PCC's funding to support the Chief Constable is shown in the Chief Constable's Accounts, with the main sources of funding (i.e. central government grants and council tax) and the vast majority of balances being shown in the PCC's Accounts.

Notably it has been decided to recognise transactions in the Chief Constable's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) in respect of operational policing, police officer and staff costs, and associated operational income, whilst liabilities for employment and post-employment benefits have been transferred to the Chief Constable's Balance Sheet in accordance with International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS19).

The rationale behind transferring the liability for employment benefits is that IAS19 states that the employment liabilities should follow employment costs. Because employment costs are shown in the Chief Constable's CIES, on the grounds that the Chief Constable is exercising day-to-day direction and control over police

officers and employs police staff, it follows that the employment liabilities are therefore shown in the Chief Constable's Balance Sheet.

### 3. Explanation of financial statements

The 2020/21 Statement of Accounts for the Chief Constable are set out on the following pages. The purpose of individual primary statements is explained below:

- The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Adjustments made between the accounting and funding bases are shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.
- **The Balance Sheet** shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Chief Constable. The net assets of the Chief Constable (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Chief Constable.
- The Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS) shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Chief Constable. The Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Chief Constable's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. These differ from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance for council tax setting purposes.
- The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Chief Constable generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. However, all cash is held by the PCC for Norfolk so the cash flow statement for the Chief Constable shows the net deficit on the provision of services as non-cash movements.

Please note that occasionally minor differences occur between the primary statements and the notes to the accounts, this is due to unavoidable rounding discrepancies.

The Accounting Policies are disclosed in Note 1 of the Notes to the Financial Statements.

### 4. The 2020/21 Revenue and Capital Budget Process

A joint financial planning process took place between July 2019 and January 2020 in accordance with an agreed timetable. An enhanced Service and Financial Planning process took place using Outcome Based Budgeting (OBB) principles.

OBB is a method for aligning budgets to demand, performance, outcomes and priorities. This process is informed by the Force Management Statement that reviews the services provided by the Constabulary, estimates future demand, and assesses the readiness of each function to meet that demand and deliver on required outcomes and performance levels. This information is then lined up against the priorities and demands of the PCC. This allows projects to be developed to target areas that can be made more efficient, and those areas requiring more investment.

These outcomes were then reviewed by a Joint Chief Officer Panel against the OBB principles and decisions made about limiting growth and increasing savings.

These outputs were then presented to the Joint Chief Officer Team, and further refined after these sessions. Finally, the outcomes of the process were presented to the PCC. The process concluded with agreement on Norfolk only budgets, the agreement of joint budgets, costs and savings arising from the process to be included in spending plans.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 96 (1) (b) of the Police Act 1996, as amended by section 14 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the PCC has an obligation to consult with business rate payers and there is also a general responsibility to consult with the public.

The PCC launched the consultation for the 2020/21 police budget which ran for 5 weeks. The consultation took the form of an online and hard copy survey and an intensive programme of media, communications and engagement activity.

The results were collated towards the end of January 2020 and presented by the PCC to the Police and Crime Panel at its meeting on 4 February 2020.

These spending plans were then incorporated into the Medium-Term Financial Plan of the PCC that covered the period 2020/21 to 2024/25 and was signed off in February 2020.

The Medium-Term Financial Plans for the PCC are available at <u>www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk</u>

### 5. Financial Performance

### Savings plans

The Chief Constable has run a well-established and effective change programme over recent years. The programme is required to deal with the impact of funding settlements, spending challenges from inflation, increasing demand, the changing nature of crime, increasing legislative and regulatory cost pressures and ongoing investment in modernising the Constabulary through improved digital infrastructure and technology.

Savings plans of £2m were identified for 2020/21, and those savings have been achieved. The PCC and Chief Constable are jointly committed to providing the best possible policing service across Norfolk whilst at the same time increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

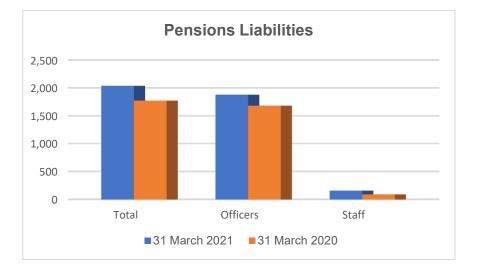
There is more information about the impact of the Home Office settlement for 2020/21 and what this means for the Constabulary over the medium-term in the Looking Forward section below. Just over £100k of savings planned in 2020/21 have been delayed by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the constabulary undertook an in-year savings review and have identified approximately £1.5m of savings which will help provide some resilience for future funding challenges caused by the pandemic. This will be kept under constant

review through the current governance arrangements that are still running and are still effective.

### Long Term Liabilities

### Pension Liabilities

There are three separate pension schemes for police officers and one scheme for police staff. Although benefits from these schemes will not be payable until an officer or staff member retires, the Chief Constable has a future commitment to make these payments and under International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS19) is required to account for this future commitment based on the full cost at the time of retirement. The future net pension liabilities of the Chief Constable as calculated by an independent actuary are set out in the following table:



These liabilities result in the Balance Sheet showing net overall liabilities of  $\pounds 2,033m$  at 31 March 2021, however, the financial position of the Chief Constable remains sound as these liabilities will be spread over many years.

The value of the LGPS pension fund assets is calculated by the actuary as part of the formal triennial valuation process, and rolled forward to the balance sheet date,

allowing for any movements in the year. These movements include investment returns, which may be estimated where necessary. Investment returns have been greater than expected, primarily as a bounce-back following the 2019/20 impact of the Covid-19 worldwide pandemic.

### Reserves

The Chief Constable does not hold any usable reserves.

### Annual Governance Statement

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to accompany the Statements of Accounts. The AGS can be found on the Constabulary website at <u>www.norfolk-police.uk</u>

### 6. Non-financial Performance

Like most police forces in England and Wales, crime reported to and recorded by Norfolk Constabulary has been affected by the onset of Covid-19 and the resulting measures that were put in place across 2020 and 2021. In the 12 months to the end of March 2021 there were 62,434 recorded crimes, almost exactly the same as the long-term average (62,407). Whilst the overall crime level has stayed relatively stable, there have been some significant variances across different crime types. Rises in Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime and Online Crime reflect the impact that three national lockdowns have had on crime, as does the decrease in Acquisitive Crime. Considerable efforts have been made by officers and staff to encourage reporting from victims of 'hidden' crimes, and those from parts of the community which have not normally reported crime frequently. In addition, investments made by the Constabulary to ensure crime is recorded as accurately as possible continue to support our understanding of demand.

The Constabulary continues to prioritise services to vulnerable and at-risk victims, targets perpetrators who cause the highest harm, continues robust operational responses to the threat of 'county lines' organised crime groups, tackles modern slavery, and targets sexual crimes against adults and children. Collaborations with Suffolk Constabulary, the regional special operations unit (ERSOU), the 7Force collaboration and other Norfolk agencies and voluntary organisations, and

investments in modern technologies such as automated number plate recognition, mobile computing devices and body worn video cameras are critical parts of these responses.

The Constabulary also continues to prioritise community issues through investment in Beat Managers and Community Engagement Officers. The Horizons project continues to develop evidence-based initiatives to reduce demand and improve efficiency enabling officers to spend more time engaging with communities and responding to local needs. As a result, public confidence in the Constabulary remains high and anti-social behaviour has fallen.

The Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020 lists the PCC's priorities for tackling crime in Norfolk:

- Increase visible policing
- Support rural communities
- Improve road safety
- Prevent offending
- Support victims and reduce vulnerability
- Deliver a modern and innovative service
- Good stewardship of taxpayers' money.

The following table shows the 'year-end' position for some of the more easily available Police and Crime Plan key performance indicators where prior year data is available. Full details will be published in the PCC's Annual Report in the autumn.

| Area                  | Indicator                                    | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|-----------------------|--|---------|---------|
| Domestic Abuse        | Number of crimes                             | 11,424  | 13,646  |
|                       | Solved rate                                  | 12%     | 9%      |
| Serious Sexual        | Number of crimes                             | 2,350   | 2,040   |
| Offences              | Solved rate                                  | 6%      | 8%      |
| Child Sexual Abuse    | Number of crimes                             | 1,647   | 1,583   |
|                       | Solved rate                                  | 7%      | 11%     |
| Hate Crime            | Number of crimes                             | 1,105   | 1,349   |
|                       | Solved rate                                  | 15%     | 12%     |
| Online Crime          | Number of crimes                             | 1,555   | 2,911   |
|                       | Solved rate                                  | 11%     | 9%      |
| Call Handling         | % 999 calls answered in 10 seconds           | 90%     | 91%     |
| Emergency<br>Response | % of emergencies responded to in target time | 89%     | 90%     |
| Road Safety           | Number of KSI collisions                     | 416     | 319     |

Demands on the Constabulary have changed in nature in recent years. Acquisitive crimes have reduced, while crimes such as domestic abuse and sexual offences have been rising. In 2020/21 however, the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic impacted the demand recorded in some vulnerability crime types. Whilst domestic abuse has continued to increase year on year, some sexual offences (particularly CSA and serious sexual offences) reduced in the number recorded. It is yet to become clear whether this reflects a true reduction in offences or whether the demand will be recorded as latent demand as we continue to ease out of social restrictions. Where rises in crime are accompanied by reductions in solved rates, this is a reflection of the changing demand, and is the focus of the Police and Crime Plan. The Force continues to prioritise the most harmful crime types alongside initiatives that focus on community priorities such as rural crime, and responding to emergencies. The Force's performance in call handling and emergency response remains strong and public perceptions of safety within the county and the job that the Constabulary is doing are positive.

### 7. Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic and Exiting the EU

Clearly, 2020/21 has been an extraordinary year with Covid-19 having had a major impact on everyone's lives within the United Kingdom, as well as on every sector of the economy. In addition to that the UK has now exited the EU. During the year changes were made to the policing model in Norfolk in order that the policing response could meet the demand and requirements of policing through the pandemic, as well as meeting business as usual demand. Related issues where relevant are highlighted within these accounts, here in the Narrative Report but also in the body of the accounts.

This section outlines key issues for the Constabulary.

### Constabulary – Impact of Exiting the EU

Following the referendum that was held in June 2016, the UK voted to leave the European Union (EU). On 29 March 2017 the then Prime Minister Theresa May formally notified the European Union (EU) of the UK's intention to leave the EU via Article 50 of the EU Constitution. The UK left the EU on 31 January 2021 after this was ratified by the EU.

The Constabulary commenced planning in respect of the impact of leaving the EU after the initial vote to leave. The Constabulary had to plan for a number of eventualities given the uncertainty as to what the impact of exiting the EU would be. As the situation developed, the uncertainty of both the form of any agreement and the future relationship post exit with the EU meant that significant time and resources were invested into contingency planning a number of different scenarios. A Gold group was formed, regular meetings held and all departments engaged in the process. Issues considered included border disruption, food supply, public disorder, the impact to communities, changes in EU law enforcement tools and continuity of medical supply and products.

A back-record conversion process was carried out to ensure that individuals flagged on Europol systems continued to be flagged on Interpol systems for example. In addition, work was completed in conjunction with the Norfolk Resilience Forum so that all multi-agency partners were involved in the planning process throughout. The Norfolk Resilience Forum includes fellow emergency services such as Fire Service, East of England Ambulance Service and Local

Councils amongst others. Norfolk Constabulary were the nominated Gold for the Norfolk Resilience Forum.

As a result, there was little impact at the start of 2021 when the UK left the EU. Due to the pandemic, we are still monitoring any future implications. People movement is limited, one of the concerns was over border controls and how these would work having left the EU.

### **Constabulary - Impact of Covid-19**

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic the Constabulary established a dedicated command model to focus on our response to the disease. This command structure was set up in collaboration with Suffolk Constabulary and enables a consistent approach to our activity both in each force and across the extensive "joint" collaborated services. This structure operates a Gold-Silver-Bronze model with Gold Command operating across both forces, and a Silver Commander nominated in each force. A Strategic Gold plan has been written which is implemented by the Silvers at an operational, tactical level. Current work is underway to review the existing structure and reduce it to align with the reducing infection rate and a move to increased alignment with business as usual activity. The retention of the Gold and Silver commanders will ensure oversight of the local and national position and will ensure a mechanism to facilitate the dissemination of information across both organisations from Op Talla (the national policing response) and other Government departments.

Force sickness levels have been continually monitored on a regular basis and all officers and staff who are symptomatic remain off work for the required number of days. Clear guidance has been provided to those living with someone displaying symptoms about the requirement to self-isolate and those deemed vulnerable have been provided with laptops to enable them to effectively work from home. This approach has been sustained and wherever possible, people who are able to effectively work from home continue to be supported to do so with the provision of mobile technology to support this approach.

Lateral flow testing has been introduced across the two organisations on a voluntary basis and the forces are now looking at options to also implement a workplace collect scheme for those engaged in specific roles / positions, for example some operational training, to facilitate home testing. In the first wave force sickness levels were much lower than expected although business continuity planning had been completed to enable a graduated response to service delivery

should this have been required. Since this time an effective internal test and trace process has been managed by Workplace Health, ensuring transmission risks are reduced as soon as a positive infection is reported.

The organisation had to quickly adapt to the pandemic and also the Government regulations in relation to legislation and social distancing measures in the workplace. Operational activity had to be changed quickly and business as usual processes were amended to ensure the safety of officers and the community were of primary concern. Whilst some activities continued, some approaches were modified to ensure compliance with these regulations. Examples of these include amendments to arrest and interview policies and the extension of agile working to ensure people were equipped with appropriate technology to enable them to work from home where their role permitted.

Owing to the changes which have taken place across the county other changes have resulted for the Constabulary. Owing to the restrictions of social distancing, a large number of home visits which would normally take place by officers and staff with both offenders and victims have been conducted in other ways, such as via phone, via Skype / Teams or from outside in the garden and alternative methods for securing evidence in statement form have been introduced. These changes have been reviewed and are being considered for future adoption into business as usual processes.

The impact of the restrictions initially resulted in a reduction in crimes being reported to the Constabulary. However, this demand has now returned to what would be described as pre-Covid levels. Concerns remain that a number of people, notably those suffering domestic and sexual abuse in the home, may have been less able to make contact with agencies to report concerns and that as a result, some hidden harm may remain unreported. This remains an area of focus for both the Constabularies and partners and the methods adopted in an attempt to facilitate this contact such as online chat, newsletters for school children and videos for children providing guidance on staying safe online, all continue.

In addition to 'normal' demand, the force have also had to balance increasing reports relating to Government regulations and legislation and to ensure internal processes are structured to ensure timely and proportionate responses to reported breaches. Such calls have resulted in increased demand within the Contact and Control Room as well as additional workload placed on local teams.

Service provision from a Constabulary back-office perspective has been less impacted than the operational services. Business continuity plans have worked well and naturally there has been a focus on the provision of critical support. There was an initial change freeze imposed, with most projects put on hold however these have now been reinstated. Project work has been restarted with demand back to pre-Covid levels and the back office is responding well. For instance, the fleet is still being serviced and the estate maintained for everyday use whilst still adhering to Covid secure measures. Improvements have been made to enable applications to support home working, staff and officers have been paid on time, supplier payments are still being made, and the statutory accounts preparation has been completed in line with revised deadlines for 2020/21.

When the original lockdown was announced, arrangements were put in place for those in the vulnerable categories to remain at home and in addition those that could work from home (both vulnerable and non-vulnerable) were instructed to do so. Rotas were established for services that needed an on-premise presence and arrangements were put in place to ensure physical distancing for those that were required to remain on site. During the period of the various lockdowns additional laptops have been acquired to increase the number of people working from home. Those working from home have been given flexibility to work around their family priorities, including managing children at home due to school closures.

A Modern Workplace Programme has now been established to look at our transition to new ways of working and innovative and flexible ways of using the estate including increased provision of sustainable and long-term models for working from home.

### Supply chain impact from Covid-19 and Exiting the EU

The Covid-19 outbreak had a significant effect on global supply chains; a slowdown in production in other regions of the world impacted on our ability to secure sufficient supplies and lead times were extended. Many of our supplies originate from or have components / elements (e.g. vehicles / ICT equipment) manufactured in the far east, which flow west.

Supply chains and lead times are generally re-established again but with countries responding to national Covid-19 surges the impact is still being monitored. Generally, there has been an increase in shipping costs in the last few months due to backlogs in UK ports and a shortage of containers in the correct place for movement of goods.

Suppliers continue to re-evaluate supply chains in order to become less reliant on one market and to build in resilience into their offering. To do this, we will see some manufacturing moving to areas where the overheads are higher and thus in the longer term it is possible that prices will increase although the impact of this has not yet been realised.

As with every frontline service, the supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been a challenge, but national arrangements are now in place ensuring that the constabularies have sufficient supplies.

Major estate developments have recommenced in accordance with national guidelines on safe working, but material lead in times have extended and increased financial assurance is sought from our main contractors.

Alongside many other organisations, the constabulary has increased the number of laptops within its asset base. There are potential risks regarding provision of core switches, firewalls, storage and servers during 2021/22 and this situation remains under review. An area of current concern relates to a shortage of chip sets which is impacting lead times for computers which ICT is managing with support of Procurement.

The global shortage of chip sets is also impacting vehicle production with some manufacturers currently slowing or temporarily ceasing production. The impact of this is being monitored as we await the award of the new national call off contracts for vehicles but as yet has not had an impact locally.

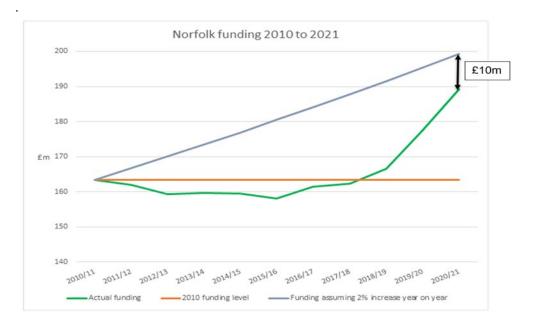
There has been some impact upon uniform supply both as a result of Covid-19 and the impact of direct imports from Europe. Some sources of uniform manufacture have been affected by recent increases in recruitment but alternative routes to market have been found to fill the gap. Ballistic protection body armour is imported direct from Germany and has thus been affected by import and delivery charges as a result of exiting the EU. Supplies have not been affected and Procurement is seeking ways to mitigate this issue.

### 8. Funding Settlement 2021/22 and beyond

The police service has already been through 10 years of austerity. The table below shows the amount of cash received by Norfolk Constabulary from the main Home Office grant, precept from households in Norfolk, plus all specific grants. Cash

levels only exceeded those of 2010/11 for the first time in 2018/19. The blue line represents the amount of money the force would have received if their grants and precept had risen broadly in line with approximate inflation of 2% each year.

This shows that, despite recent increases in government funding and precept, the force has absorbed significant amounts of inflation over that time and still has  $c. \pm 10m$  less than 2010 in real terms.



Other statutory and legislative changes have also increased costs to the organisation (e.g. increases to Pensions, National Insurance, and the reduction in the capital grant). As a result, the constabulary has had to absorb additional cost pressures of at least £9.5m per year on top of inflationary pressures.

In response to this, every year, cashable savings and efficiencies have been identified. The savings help to finance the demand pressures, cover inflation costs and balance the budget. To the end of 2020/21 Norfolk Constabulary has saved  $\pounds$ 36m and in the new MTFP period 2021/25 savings of  $\pounds$ 4m have been identified. This brings total savings to  $\pounds$ 40m (annually recurring) over the last decade.

In addition, in recent years government has only issued one-year funding settlements for PCCs, and force-by-force provisional detailed grant announcements are normally made in December for funding commencing the following April. This creates a challenging planning environment, that this year has been made much more challenging due to the emergence of Covid-19 that plunged the UK economy into recession.

Despite the economic uncertainty, the Spending Review announcement on 25 November 2020 confirmed the continuation of funding for the recruitment of 20,000 additional officers for England and Wales (the Police Uplift Programme or PUP). Nationally, £415m of funding has been made available for 2021/22 to recruit another 6,000 officers (in addition to the first 6,000 officers recruited in 2020/21). The table below provides a comparison between the 2021/22 grant settlement and 2020/21 figures.

|                           | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | V     | /ariance |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|
|                           | £000    | £000    | £000  | %        |
| Police Core Grant         | 85,476  | 90,864  | 5,388 | 6.3%     |
| Ringfenced Grant (Uplift) | 1,879   | 1,119   | (760) | -40.4%   |
| Legacy Council Tax Grants | 9,305   | 9,305   | 0     | 0%       |
| Total all Grants          | 96,660  | 101,288 | 4,628 | 4.8%     |

The government funding for PUP for 2021/22 (approx. £4.6m as shown above) must be spent on the costs of recruiting officers, plus the additional costs that supports recruitment, training, uniform provision, vehicles and the other back office functions that makes the recruitment and retention of officers possible. Therefore, this does not then help fund the additional pressures outlined previously.

Central funding for PUP is for three years and officer numbers cannot be frozen or cut during this period as £1.1m of funding is linked to achieving the Uplift targets. Other government funding has generally been cash-flat in recent years (i.e. inflationary pressures have to be absorbed).

A 3-year CSR is expected. The economic situation as a result of the pandemic is known to be extremely challenging. Central borrowing is forecast to peak at £393.5bn, 19% of GDP. The government will face fiscal challenges and will have to consider the balance of needing to reduce funding government departments, including the Home Office, and / or the need to raise taxes. Therefore, government funding is not guaranteed to be stable over the medium-term.

As part of the settlement, PCCs were given the flexibility to increase the precept by up to £15 per annum without the need to go to a referendum. Following a period of consultation with the public, and on the basis the majority of people supported that level of increase, the PCC took the decision to raise the precept by the maximum allowed. By doing this, the PCC has been able to provide funding of £2.7m to help the Constabulary maintain current service levels against the rise in demand and complexity of crime.

However, the settlement did not outline the levels of future funding, and it is also uncertain as to what Norfolk's allocation will be of the remaining 8,000 Uplift officers. Therefore, from a prudent basis, and due to the uncertainty of the outcome of the Spending Review and the possibility of a Funding Formula review, the assumptions for future years contained within the MTFP are 0% precept limits, "cash flat" central grant funding and the loss of the Pension Grant as this is only confirmed for one more year.

Clearly, the country, along with the rest of the world, has been hit with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and is moving forward following exiting the EU. The UK is suffering the economic shock of the pandemic and various periods of lockdown restrictions, and the government has a significant challenge to resolve over the next few months and years. The timing of the Spending Review is uncertain, and while Uplift is expected to be continued, the funding outlook is not clear given there could be another period of austerity required to balance the government's books. The prudent assumptions made in the MTFP are now even more appropriate. The Constabulary is now about to commence the process of the new round of strategic financial planning, and will consult with the PCC throughout this process, and will need to take the new post Covid-19 funding risks into account. There are no going concern issues as a result, as funding to police forces will continue, but there may be risks to the levels of service currently offered.

The PCC has published the Reserves Strategy and the Capital Strategy in the new MTFP for 2021/22 to 2024/25 and these can be found at the following address:

https://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk/documents/finance/budget/202021/2020-21PoliceBudget-ReportToPoliceAndCrimePanel.pdf

The financial, economic and operational uncertainties and challenges will require the PCC and Constabulary to keep financial planning assumptions under constant review, to ensure that the financial position remains stable into the long term and that increased efficiency is kept at the heart of these developments.

Peter Jasper ACMA

Assistant Chief Officer

# Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary for the year ended 31 March 2021

| Gross       |           | Net        |   |      | Gross     |           | Net        |
|-------------|-----------|------------|---|------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Expenditure | Income E  | xpenditure |   | Ex   | penditure | Income E  | xpenditure |
| 2019/20     | 2019/20   | 2019/20    |   |      | 2020/21   | 2020/21   | 2020/21    |
| £000        | £000      | £000       |   | Note | £000      | £000      | £000       |
|             |           |            | Division of service:                                    |      |           |           |            |
| 198,066     | (19,331)  | 178,734    | Constabulary  |      | 206,550   | (19,472)  | 187,078    |
| 198,066     | (19,331)  | 178,734    | Net cost of police services before group funding        |      | 206,550   | (19,472)  | 187,078    |
|             | (175,091) | (175,091)  | Intra-group funding                                     | 4    |           | (181,730) | (181,730)  |
| 198,066     | (194,422) | 3,643      | Net cost of police services                             |      | 206,550   | (201,201) | 5,349      |
|             |           |            | Other operating expenditure:                            |      |           |           |            |
|             |           |            | Financing and investment income and expenditure:        |      |           |           |            |
| 47,092      | -         | 47,092     | Pensions interest cost                                  | 13   | 39,907    | -         | 39,907     |
| 47,092      | -         | 47,092     |   |      | 39,907    | -         | 39,907     |
|             |           | 50,735     | Deficit / (surplus) on the provision of services        |      |           |           | 45,256     |
|             |           |            | Other comprehensive income and expenditure:             |      |           |           |            |
|             |           | (197,649)  | Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability (i) | 13   |           |           | 217,089    |
|             |           | (197,649)  |   |      |           |           | 217,089    |
|             |           | (146,914)  | Total comprehensive income and expenditure              |      |           |           | 262,345    |

(i) Losses of £219m arose in the year from changes in actuarial assumptions used in assessing the net pension liability, details of these movements can be found in Note 13 to these accounts.

# Balance Sheet for the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary as at 31 March 2021

| 31 March<br>2020<br>£000 |                                       | Notes   | 31 March<br>2021<br>£000 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| -                        | TOTAL ASSETS                          |         | -                        |
| 1,033                    | Short-term creditors and accruals     | 14      | 1,592                    |
| 1,033                    | Current liabilities                   |         | 1,592                    |
| 1,769,765                | Liability related to defined benefits | 13      | 2,031,549                |
| 1,769,765                | Long term liabilities                 |         | 2,031,549                |
| 1,770,798                | TOTAL LIABILITIES                     |         | 2,033,141                |
| (1,770,798)              | NET LIABILITIES                       |         | (2,033,141)              |
|                          |                                       | De      |                          |
| -                        | Usable reserves                       | Page 18 | -                        |
| (1,770,798)              | Unusable reserves                     | Page 18 | (2,033,141)              |
| (1,770,798)              | TOTAL RESERVES                        |         | (2,033,141)              |

The unaudited financial statements were issued on 13 July 2021.

le/

Peter Jasper ACMA Assistant Chief Officer 13 July 2021

# Movement in Reserves Statement for the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary

|  |         | General  | Total    |             | Comp'    | Total       |             |
|--|---------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
|  |         | Fund     | Usable   | Pension     | Absences | Unusable    | Total       |
|  |         | Balance  | Reserves | Reserves    | Account  | Reserves    | Reserves    |
| Year Ended 31 March 2021   | Note    | £000     | £000     | £000        | £000     | £000        | £000        |
| Balance at 1 April 2020  |         | -        | -        | (1,769,765) | (1,033)  | (1,770,798) | (1,770,798) |
| Movement in reserves during 2020/21                                      |         |          |          |             |          |             |             |
| Surplus or (deficit) on provision of services (accounting basis)         | Page 16 | (45,256) | (45,256) | -           | -        | -           | (45,256)    |
| Other comprehensive income and expenditure                               | Page 16 | -        | -        | (217,089)   | -        | (217,089)   | (217,089)   |
| Total comprehensive income and expenditure                               |         | (45,256) | (45,256) | (217,089)   | -        | (217,089)   | (262,345)   |
| Difference between IAS 19 pension costs and those calculated             |         |          |          |             |          |             |             |
| in accordance with statutory requirements                                |         | 63,771   | 63,771   | (63,771)    | -        | (63,771)    | -           |
| Contribution to the Police Pension Fund                                  |         | (19,076) | (19,076) | 19,076      | -        | 19,076      | -           |
| Movement on the Compensated Absences Account                             |         | 559      | 559      | -           | (559)    | (559)       | -           |
| Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations |         | 45,254   | 45,254   | (44,695)    | (559)    | (45,254)    | -           |
| Net movement in reserves   |         | -        | -        | (261,784)   | (559)    | (262,343)   | (262,343)   |
| Balance at 31 March 2021   |         | -        | -        | (2,031,549) | (1,592)  | (2,033,141) | (2,033,141) |

|  |         | General  | Total    |             | Comp'    | Total       |             |
|--|---------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
|  |         | Fund     | Usable   | Pension     | Absences | Unusable    | Total       |
|  |         | Balance  | Reserves | Reserves    | Account  | Reserves    | Reserves    |
| Year Ended 31 March 2020   | Note    | £000     | £000     | £000        | £000     | £000        | £000        |
| Balance at 1 April 2019  |         | -        | -        | (1,916,951) | (762)    | (1,917,713) | (1,917,713) |
| Movement in reserves during 2019/20                                      |         |          |          |             |          |             |             |
| Surplus or (deficit) on provision of services (accounting basis)         | Page 16 | (50,735) | (50,735) | -           | -        | -           | (50,735)    |
| Other comprehensive income and expenditure                               | Page 16 | -        | -        | 197,649     | -        | 197,649     | 197,649     |
| Total comprehensive income and expenditure                               |         | (50,735) | (50,735) | 197,649     | -        | 197,649     | 146,914     |
| Difference between IAS 19 pension costs and those calculated             |         |          |          |             |          |             |             |
| in accordance with statutory requirements                                |         | 71,390   | 71,390   | (71,390)    | -        | (71,390)    | -           |
| Contribution to the Police Pension Fund                                  |         | (20,927) | (20,927) | 20,927      | -        | 20,927      | -           |
| Movement on the Compensated Absences Account                             |         | 271      | 271      | -           | (271)    | (271)       | -           |
| Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations |         | 50,734   | 50,734   | (50,463)    | (271)    | (50,734)    | -           |
| Net movement in reserves   |         | -        | -        | 147,186     | (271)    | 146,915     | 146,914     |
| Balance at 31 March 2020   |         | -        | -        | (1,769,765) | (1,033)  | (1,770,798) | (1,770,798) |

# Cash Flow Statement for the Chief Constable for Norfolk Constabulary

# for the year ended 31 March 2021

| 2019/20<br>£000 |  | 2020/21<br>£000 |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| (50,735)        | Net Surplus/(deficit) on the provision of services                 | (45,256)        |
|                 | Adjustment for non cash or cash equivalent movements               |                 |
| 50,463          | Movements on pension liability                                     | 44,695          |
| 271             | Increase/(decrease) in revenue creditors                           | 559             |
| 50,735          | Net adjustment for non cash or cash equivalent movements           | 45,255          |
| -               | Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents            | -               |
|                 | Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period | _               |
|                 | Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period       | -               |

# Expenditure and Funding Analysis for the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis is a note to the Financial Statements; however, it is positioned here as it provides a link from the figures reported in the Narrative Report to the CIES.

| Net Expenditure<br>Chargeable<br>to the General<br>Fund Balances | Adjustments<br>between<br>Funding and<br>Accounting Basis | Net<br>Expenditure<br>in the<br>CIES<br>2019/20 |  | Net Expenditure<br>Chargeable<br>to the General<br>Fund Balances | Adjustments<br>between<br>Funding and<br>Accounting Basis | Net<br>Expenditure<br>in the<br>CIES<br>2020/21 |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| £000   | £000  | £000  | Constabulary                                   | £000   | £000  | £000  |
|  |   |   | Year Ended 31 March                            |  |   |   |
| 154,165  | 24,569  | 178,734   | Constabulary                                   | 162,655  | 24,423  | 187,078   |
| (175,091)  | -   | (175,091)                                       | Intra-group funding                            | (181,730)  | -   | (181,730)                                       |
| (20,927)   | 24,569  | 3,643   | Net cost of police services                    | (19,075)   | 24,423  | 5,348   |
| 20,927   | 26,165  | 47,092  | Other income and expenditure                   | 19,076   | 20,831  | 39,907  |
| -  | 50,734  | 50,735  | Deficit/(surplus) on the provision of services | -  | 45,254  | 45,255  |
|  |   |   | Opening general fund balance at 1 April        | -  |   |   |
| -  |   |   | Closing general fund balance at 31 March       | -  |   |   |

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary

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### 1. Accounting Policies

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Chief Constable's transactions for the 2020/21 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2021. The Chief Constable is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which those Regulations require to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. Those practices primarily comprise the Code, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

### Cost recognition and intra-group adjustment

Refer to Note 4 for further details.

### Recognition of working capital

The Scheme of Governance and Consent sets out the roles and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable, and also includes the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders. As per these governance documents all contracts and bank accounts are in the name of the PCC. No consent has been granted to the Chief Constable to open bank accounts or hold cash or associated working capital assets or liabilities. This means that all cash, assets and liabilities in relation to working capital are the responsibility of the PCC, with all the control and risk also residing with the PCC. To this end, all working capital is shown in the accounts of the PCC and the Group.

### Accruals of income and expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not in the financial period in which cash payments are paid or received.

### **Debtors and creditors**

Revenue and capital transactions are included in the accounts on an accruals basis. Where goods and services are ordered and delivered by the year-end, the actual or estimated value of the order is accrued. With the exception of purchasing system generated accruals a de-minimis level of £1,000 is set for year-end accruals of purchase invoices, except where they relate to grant funded items, where no deminimis is used. Other classes of accrual are reviewed to identify their magnitude. Where the inclusion or omission of an accrual would not have a material impact on the Statement of Accounts, either individually or cumulatively, it is omitted.

### **Employee benefits**

### Benefits payable during employment

Salaries, wages and employment-related payments are recognised in the period in which the service is received from employees. An accrual is made for the cost of annual leave entitlements earned by employees but not taken before the year end. The accrual is made at the most recent wage and salary rates applicable.

### Termination benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the entity to terminate an employee's employment before the normal retirement date or an employee's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service segment or, where applicable, to a corporate service segment at the earlier of when the entity can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the entity recognises costs for a restructuring. Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the entity to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the MIRS, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

### Post-employment benefits

Officers have the option of joining the Police Pension Scheme 2015. Civilian employees have the option of joining the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered by Norfolk County Council. Some officers are still members of the Police Pension Scheme 1987 and the New Police Pension Scheme 2006, where transitional protection applies. All of the schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Constabulary, and all of the schemes are accounted for as defined benefit schemes.

The liabilities attributable to the Chief Constable of all four schemes are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits (including injury benefits on the Police Schemes) earned to date by officers and employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates etc., and projections of earnings for current officers and employees.

Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate specified each year by the actuaries.

The assets of the LGPS attributable to the Chief Constable are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value as follows:

- Quoted securities current bid price.
- Unquoted securities professional estimate.
- Unitised securities current bid price.
- Property market value.

All three of the police schemes are unfunded and therefore do not have any assets. Benefits are funded from the contributions made by currently serving officers and a notional employer's contribution paid from the general fund; any shortfall is partially topped up by a grant from the Home Office.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into six components:

• Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year, it is debited to the net cost of policing in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES). The current service cost is based on the latest available actuarial valuation.

- Past service cost the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years. Past service costs are debited to the net cost of policing in the CIES.
- Interest cost the expected increase in the present value of liabilities during the year as they move one year closer to being paid. It is charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES. The interest cost is based on the discount rate and the present value of the scheme liabilities at the beginning of the period.
- The return on plan assets excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
- Actuarial gains and losses changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions. They are charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
- Contributions paid to the four pension funds cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities. These are not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amounts payable by the Chief Constable to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. This means that in the MIRS there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pension Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact on the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

### **Discretionary Benefits**

The entity has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff (including injury awards for police officers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The Chief Constable makes payments to police officers in relation to injury awards, and the expected injury awards for active members are valued on an actuarial basis.

#### Events after the reporting period

Events after the reporting period are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified.

- Those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period. The Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events.
- Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period. The Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events. However, where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

#### **Government grants and contributions**

All government grants are received in the name of the PCC. However, where grants and contributions are specific to expenditure incurred by the Chief Constable, they are recorded as income within the Chief Constable's accounts. Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third-party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Chief Constable when there is reasonable assurance that:

- The Chief Constable will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- The grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Chief Constable are not credited to the CIES until conditions attaching to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet within creditors as government grants received in advance. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants/contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non-ring-fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the CIES.

Where capital grants are credited to the CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund balance in the MIRS. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Account. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

#### Joint operations

Joint operations are activities undertaken by the Chief Constable in conjunction with other bodies, which involve the use of his resources or those of the other body, rather than the establishment of a separate entity. The Chief Constable recognises the liabilities that he incurs and debits and credits the CIES with his share of the expenditure incurred and income earned from the activity of the operation.

#### Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and similar contracts

PFI and similar contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the PFI contractor.

The amounts payable to the PFI operators each year are analysed into five elements; only the fair value of the services received during the year is debited to

the Chief Constable's net cost of policing in the CIES. The other elements are only shown in the PCC and Group accounts.

### **Contingent Liabilities**

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Chief Constable a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Chief Constable. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

### Reserves

The Chief Constable sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the MIRS. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the MIRS so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Chief Constable – these reserves are explained in the following paragraph:

### Pension Reserve

The Pension Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with the statutory provisions. The Chief Constable accounts for post-employment benefits in the CIES as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed

as the Chief Constable makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which they are directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall between the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Chief Constable has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

### Value Added Tax

VAT payable is included as an expense or capitalised only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income. Where the VAT is irrecoverable it is included in the relevant service line of the Chief Constable's CIES, or if the expenditure relates to an asset, is capitalised as part of the value of that asset. Irrecoverable VAT is VAT charged which under legislation is not reclaimable (e.g., purchase of command platform vehicles).

### **Going Concern**

The Code stipulates that the financial statements of local authorities that can only be discontinued under statutory prescription shall be prepared on a going concern basis. This assumption is made because local authorities carry out functions essential to the local community, and cannot be created or dissolved without statutory prescription. Transfers of services under combinations of public sector bodies do not negate the presumption that the financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis of accounting. However, in order to assist External Audit with establishing their going concern conclusion, a review of going concern is carried out by management. Refer to Note 17 for detail of this review.

### 2. Accounting Standards That Have Been Issued But Have Not Yet Been Adopted

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Code which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

The amendments required to be adopted under the 2021/22 Code are:

- Definition of a Business: Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations
- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform: Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS39 and IFRS 7
- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Phase 2: Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16

Application of the IFRSs referred to above, as adopted by the Code, is required by 1 April 2021, and these IFRSs will be initially adopted as at 1 April 2021. The Code requires changes in accounting policy to be applied retrospectively unless alternative transitional arrangements are specified in the Code.

It is not expected that the adoption of any of the standards listed above will have a material effect on the 2021/22 financial statements.

Implementation of the new leasing standard, IFRS 16 Leases, had previously been deferred from 2020/21 for one year due to the impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic. However, due to the continued widespread impact of the pandemic, and resulting pressures on council finance teams, the CIPFA/LASAAC Local Authority Accounting Code Board agreed to defer the implementation of this standard for a further year. This will mean the effective date for implementation is now 1 April 2022.

### 3. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1, the CFO of the Chief Constable has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

- The budget is set by the PCC and provides the Chief Constable with the authority to incur expenditure. There are still uncertainties about the future funding beyond 2021/22 in regard of what the PCC will receive from the government and the limitations around the precept. The PCC and the Chief Constable are working together to mitigate the impact of the funding gap emerging over the period of the Medium-Term Financial Plan, the impact of which will be realised in the budget set by the PCC.
- The allocation of transactions and balances between the PCC and the Chief Constable has been set out in the Narrative Report to these accounts.
- The PCC for Norfolk has a significant number of assets including those under Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangements. The PCC has the responsibility, control and risk in terms of the provision of those assets. Consequently, a critical judgement has been made to show any connected grant funding (e.g. for PFI) and the capital and financing costs of the provision of those assets in the PCC account. As the Chief Constable utilises the assets on a day-to-day basis, the officers and staff of the Chief Constable have responsibility for the use of the consumables, heating and lighting and so forth. Consequently, these costs are shown in the Chief Constable accounts including the service charges element of the PFI.
- Costs of pension arrangements require estimates assessed by independent qualified actuaries regarding future cash flows that will arise under the scheme liabilities. The assumptions underlying the valuation used for IAS19 reporting are the responsibility of the Group as advised by the actuaries. The financial assumptions are largely prescribed at any point and reflect market expectations at the reporting date. Assumptions are also made around the life expectancy of the UK population.
- In respect of the LGPS police staff pension costs, separate actuarial valuations have been carried out to provide the accounting entries for the

PCC and the Chief Constable in 2020/21 and are reflected in the financial statements.

# 4. Intra-group Funding Arrangement Between the PCC and Chief Constable

The background and principles that underpin the accounting arrangements and create the need for an intra-group adjustment have been set out in the Narrative Report.

The PCC received all funding on behalf of the Group; at no time, under the current arrangements, does the Chief Constable hold any cash or reserves. However, it is felt that to accurately represent the substance of the financial impact of the day-to-day control exercised by the Chief Constable over policing it is necessary to capture the costs associated with this activity in the Chief Constable's CIES. A consequence of this is that the employment liabilities associated with police officers and police staff are also contained in the Chief Constable's CIES and the accumulative balances are held on the Chief Constable's Balance Sheet. All other assets and liabilities are held on the PCC's Balance Sheet.

Whilst no actual cash changes hands the PCC has undertaken to fund the resources consumed by the Chief Constable. The PCC effectively makes all payments from the Police Fund. To reflect this position in the Accounts, funding from the PCC offsets cost of service expenditure contained in the Chief Constable's CIES. This intra-group adjustment is mirrored in the PCC's CIES. The financial impact associated with the costs of the employment liabilities are carried on the balance sheet in accordance with the Code and added to the carrying value of the Pensions Liability and Accumulated Absences Liability.

## 5. Notes to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

Adjustments between the CIES and the General Fund

| Net Change<br>for the | Other<br>Differences | Total<br>Adjustments |   | Net Change<br>for the | Other<br>Differences | Total<br>Adjustments |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Pensions              |                      | 2019/20              |   | Pensions              |                      | 2020/21              |
| Adjustments           |                      |                      |   | Adjustments           |                      |                      |
| £000                  | £000                 | £000                 | Constabulary                                      | £000                  | £000                 | £000                 |
|                       |                      |                      |   |                       |                      |                      |
| 24,298                | 271                  | 24,569               | Constabulary                                      | 23,864                | 559                  | 24,423               |
| 24,298                | 271                  | 24,569               | Net Cost of Police Services                       | 23,864                | 559                  | 24,423               |
| 26,165                | -                    | 26,165               | Other income and expenditure                      | 20,831                | -                    | 20,831               |
|                       |                      |                      | Difference between General Fund Deficit/(Surplus) |                       |                      |                      |
| 50,463                | 271                  | 50,734               | & CIES Deficit/(Surplus)                          | 44,695                | 559                  | 45,254               |

### Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

| Total     |   | Total     |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 2019/20   |   | 2020/21   |
| £000      |   | £000      |
|           | Expenditure   |           |
| 168,833   | Employee benefits expenses  | 177,454   |
| 29,233    | Other service expenditure   | 29,096    |
| 47,092    | Net pensions interest cost  | 39,907    |
| 245,158   | Total Expenditure   | 246,457   |
|           | Income  |           |
| (7,848)   | Fees, charges and other service income                                    | (6,974)   |
| (11,483)  | Government grants and contributions                                       | (12,498)  |
| (19,331)  | Total Income  | (19,472)  |
| 225,826   | Deficit/(Surplus) on the Provision of Services before Intra Group funding | 226,985   |
| (175,091) | Intra group funding   | (181,730) |
|           | Deficit/(Surplus) on the Provision of Services                            | 45,256    |

### 6. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

### Pensions Liability

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Chief Constable with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. The effects on the net pensions' liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.5% decrease in the discount rate assumption would result in an increase in the pension liability of £233.5m.

The value of the LGPS pension fund assets is calculated by the actuary as part of the formal triennial valuation process, and rolled forward to the balance sheet date, allowing for any movements in the year. These movements include investment returns, which may be estimated where necessary. However, the figure incorporates actual returns for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

### 7. Post Balance Sheet Events

Post balance sheet events have been considered for the period from the year-end to the date the accounts were authorised for issue on the second seco

### 8. Employees' Remuneration

The number of employees and senior police officers whose remuneration exceeded  $\pounds$ 50k in 2020/21 were as follows:

|                     | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Remuneration        |         |         |
| £50,000 - £54,999   | 10      | 6       |
| £55,000 - £59,999   | 10      | 14      |
| £60,000 - £64,999   | 6       | 2       |
| £65,000 - £69,999   | 4       | 7       |
| £70,000 - £74,999   | 4       | 3       |
| £75,000 - £79,999   | 2       | 2       |
| £80,000 - £84,999   | 2       | 2       |
| £85,000 - £89,999   | 4       | 4       |
| £90,000 - £94,999   | 2       | 2       |
| £95,000 - £99,999   | 1       | -       |
| £105,000 - £109,999 | -       | 2       |
| £110,000 - £114,999 | 2       | -       |
| £120,000 - £124,999 | 1       | 2       |
| £125,000 - £129,999 | 1       | -       |
| £135,000 - £139,999 | 1       | -       |
| £170,000 - £174,999 | -       | 1       |
| £175,000 - £179,999 | 1       | -       |

"Remuneration" is defined, by regulation, as "all amounts paid to or receivable by an employee and includes sums due by way of expenses allowance (so far as those sums are chargeable to United Kingdom income tax) and the estimated money value of any other benefits received by an employee otherwise than in cash."

In addition to the above the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require a detailed disclosure of employees' remuneration for relevant senior police officers, certain statutory and non-statutory chief officers and other persons with a responsibility for management of the Constabulary. The officers listed in the following table are also included in the above banding disclosure note.

|   | Salaries Fees<br>and<br>Allowances<br>£000 | Employers<br>Pension<br>Contributions<br>£000 | Benefits in<br>Kind<br>£000 | Total<br>£000 |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 2020/21<br>Register held  |  |   |                             |               |
| Position held   | 475  |   | 7                           | 400           |
| Chief Constable - Simon Bailey  | 175  | -   | 7                           | 182           |
| Deputy Chief Constable  | 138  | 39  | -                           | 177           |
| Assistant Chief Constable<br>Temporary Deputy Chief Constable (to 31.08.20)   | 123  | 37  | 8                           | 168           |
| Assistant Chief Constable (from 01.05.20)<br>Temporary Assistant Chief Constable (to 30.04.20)  | 130  | 35  | -                           | 165           |
| Temporary Assistant Chief Constable   | 106  | 28  | -                           | 134           |
| Assistant Chief Officer   | 112  | 18  | -                           | 130           |
| <u>2019/20</u>  |  |   |                             |               |
| Position held   |  |   |                             |               |
| Chief Constable - Simon Bailey  | 171  | -   | 8                           | 179           |
| Deputy Chief Constable (from 01.01.20)<br>Temporary DCC (to 31.12.19)   | 124  | 36  | 5                           | 165           |
| Temporary Deputy Chief Constable (from 24.03.20)<br>Acting DCC (from 25.11.19 to 23.03.20)<br>Assistant Chief Constable - Joint (to 24.11.19) | 120  | 36  | 6                           | 162           |
| Temporary Assistant Chief Constable   | 108  | 27  | 3                           | 138           |
| Temporary Assistant Chief Constable (from 01.01.20)   | 92   | 27  | -                           | 119           |
| Assistant Chief Officer   | 109  | 17  | -                           | 126           |

During 2020/21, a chief officer from Norfolk Constabulary acted as a Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) until 31.08.20 and an Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) from 01.09.20 in a joint capacity, Suffolk Constabulary contributed 43.2% towards the cost of these posts.

From 01.09.20 a Norfolk Constabulary officer acted as a Temporary ACC in a joint capacity, Suffolk Constabulary contributed 21.6% towards the cost of this post.

Until 25.09.20 a Suffolk Constabulary officer acted as a Temporary ACC in a joint capacity, Norfolk Constabulary contributed 56.8% towards the cost of this post.

The Regulations also require disclosure of compensation for loss of employment and other payments to relevant police officers. No amounts were paid to the above officers in respect of these categories.

The number of exit packages with a total cost per band are set out in the table below.

| Exit Package<br>Cost<br>Band including | Numb<br>Comp<br>Redund | ulsory | Number<br>Agr<br>Depar | eed | Total Nu<br>Exit Pa |   | Total Valu<br>Packa |         |
|--|------------------------|--------|------------------------|-----|---------------------|---|---------------------|---------|
| Payments                               | 2020/21                |        |                        |     |                     | - | 2020/21             | 2019/20 |
| £000                                   |                        |        |                        |     |                     |   | £000                | £000    |
| 0-20                                   | -                      | 1      | 2                      | -   | 2                   | 1 | 16                  | 3       |
| 20-40                                  | -                      | -      | -                      | 1   | -                   | 1 | -                   | 30      |
| 40-60                                  | -                      | 1      | -                      | -   | -                   | 1 | -                   | 41      |
| 80-100                                 | 1                      | -      | -                      | -   | 1                   | - | 82                  | -       |
|  | 1                      | 2      | 2                      | 1   | 3                   | 3 | 97                  | 74      |

### 9. Related Parties

The Chief Constable is required to disclose material transactions with bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Chief Constable or to be controlled or influenced by the Chief Constable.

During 2020/21 there were no material related party transactions involving senior officers of the Constabulary, other than those included under employees' remuneration set out in Note 8 of these financial statements. All Chief Officers have been written to requesting details of any related party transactions and there are no disclosures.

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of the Chief Constable, it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Chief Constable operates, provides the majority of its funding and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Chief Constable has with other parties. Income from central government is set out in Note 11 of these financial statements.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have implemented significant collaborative arrangements, these are fully disclosed in Note 15.

No other material transactions with related parties have been entered into except where disclosed elsewhere in the accounts.

### **10. External Audit Costs**

The Chief Constable fees payable in respect of external audit services are as below. No audit fees have been payable for non audit work.

| 2019/20<br>£000   | 2020/21<br>£000 |
|---|-----------------|
| The Chief Constable has incurred the following costs<br>in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts |                 |
| 12 The Chief Constable of Norfolk   | 12              |
| 12  | 12              |

Neither the 2020/21 nor the 2019/20 audit fees include any additional amount attributable to the Chief Constable in respect of prior year audits.

# 11. Grant Income

The Chief Constable credited the following grants and contributions to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

|                                    | Amount<br>receivable<br>for 20/21<br>£000 | Amount<br>receivable<br>for 19/20<br>£000 |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Credited to Services               |   |   |
| Police incentivisation             | 224                                       | 248                                       |
| Vulnerability Coordination Centre  | 736                                       | 449                                       |
| Specific grant for police pensions | 1,565                                     | 1,565                                     |
| Other specific grants              | 9,973                                     | 9,222                                     |
|                                    | 12,498                                    | 11,483                                    |

Other specific grants credited to services include  $\pounds$ 1.069m child sexual exploitation grant,  $\pounds$ 2.7m for Operation Hydrant and  $\pounds$ 4.2m for a specific Home Office grant.

# 12. Private Finance Initiatives

### Operations and Communications Centre at Wymondham

The PCC is committed to making payments under a contract with a consortium for the use of Jubilee House, Operations and Communications Centre at Wymondham until 2037.

The actual level of payments is dependent on availability of the site and provision and delivery of services within. The estimated cost covers the contract standard facilities management provision. The contract, which is for a period of 35 years starting from 2001, has an option at contract end date to purchase the property at open market value or to negotiate with the PFI provider to extend the contract for up to a further 2 periods of 15 years, or of terminating the contract.

The PCC makes an agreed payment each year which is increased by inflation and can be reduced if the contract fails to meet availability and performance standards in any year but which is otherwise fixed.

The payment recognised in the Chief Constable accounts for the services element during 2020/21 was £1,469m (£1,414m in 2019/20). Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract for services at 31 March 2021 (excluding any estimation of inflation and availability / performance deductions) are as follows:

|  | 000      |
|--|----------|
|  | Revenue  |
|  | Services |
|  | £000     |
| Payable in 2021/22                     | 1,506    |
| Payable within two to five years       | 6,343    |
| Payable within six to ten years        | 7,877    |
| Payable within eleven to fifteen years | 8,912    |
| Payable within sixteen to twenty years | 1,348    |
|  | 25,986   |

## Police Investigation Centres (PIC)

During the financial years 2010/2011 to 2040/2041 the Norfolk and Suffolk PCCs are committed to making payments under a contract with a consortium for the use of the six PICs. The actual level of payments will be dependent on the availability of the site and provision and delivery of services within. The contract is for 30 years. As the end of this term the properties revert to the two Groups.

Norfolk and Suffolk PCCs have agreed to pay for these services on an agreed percentage in accordance with the total number of cells within the six properties located in the two counties – this being Norfolk 58.2% and Suffolk 41.8%. The payment recognised in the Chief Constable accounts is for the net services element which during 2020/21 amounted to  $\pounds 1.409m$  ( $\pounds 1.329m$  in 2019/20). This figure includes a credit received from Cambridgeshire Police for  $\pounds 0.523m$  in respect of services provided at the Kings Lynn PIC.

The PCC makes an agreed payment each year which is increased by inflation and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet availability and performance standards in any year but which is otherwise fixed. Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract at 31 March 2021 (which exclude any availability / performance deductions or amounts receivable from Cambridgeshire Police), are shown in the following table:

|  | PIC      |
|--|----------|
|  | Revenue  |
|  | Services |
|  | £000     |
| Payable in 2021/22                     | 2,015    |
| Payable within two to five years       | 8,432    |
| Payable within six to ten years        | 12,927   |
| Payable within eleven to fifteen years | 15,123   |
| Payable within sixteen to twenty years | 15,608   |
|  | 54,104   |

# **13. Retirement Benefits**

## Participation in pension schemes

Pension and other benefits are available to all PCC and Constabulary personnel under the requirements of statutory regulations. Four defined benefit pension schemes are operated:

a) The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for PCC and Constabulary police staff, administered by Norfolk County Council – this is a funded defined benefit scheme, meaning that the employers and employees pay contributions into a fund. Contributions are calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets.

From April 2014 the LGPS changed to a career average defined benefit scheme, so that benefits accrued are worked out using the employee's pay each scheme year rather than the final salary. This applies to all membership which builds up from 1 April 2014, but all pensions in payment or built up before April 2014 are protected. Employee contributions are determined by reference to actual pensionable pay and are tiered between 5.5% and 12.5%.

- b) The Police Pension Scheme (PPS) for police officers who joined before April 2006. The employee contributions are 14.25%-15.05% of salary and maximum benefits are achieved after 30 years' service. Contribution rates are dependent on salary.
- c) The New Police Pension Scheme (NPPS) for police officers who either joined from April 2006 or transferred from the PPS. The employee contributions are 11.00%-12.75% of salary and maximum benefits are achieved after 35 years' service. Contribution rates are dependent on salary.
- d) The Police Pension 2015 Scheme for police officers, is a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, for those who either joined from April 2015 or transferred from PPS or NPPS. The employee contributions are 12.44%-13.78% of salary and the Normal Pension Age is 60 although there are protections for eligible officers to retire earlier. Contribution rates are dependent on salary.

All police pension schemes are unfunded defined benefit schemes, meaning that there are no investment assets built up to meet pension liabilities. Employees' and employer's contribution levels are based on percentages of pensionable pay set nationally by the Home Office and are subject to triennial revaluation by the Government Actuary's Department. The actuarial valuation has set the employer contribution rate for all three police pension schemes from 1 April 2019 as 31% of pensionable pay. A pensions top-up grant from the Home Office is received which funds contributions to a level of 21.3% and in 2020/21 a specific grant of £1.6m was received to part fund the cost of the recent change in contribution rates. The CIES is charged with the costs of injury awards and the capital value of ill-health benefits.

The PCC is also required to maintain a Police Pension Fund Account. Employer and employee contributions are credited to the account together with the capital value of ill-health retirements and transfer values received. Pensions and other benefits (except injury awards) and transfer values paid are charged to this account. If the account is in deficit at 31 March in any year, the Home Office pays a top-up grant to partially cover it. If there is a surplus on the account, then that has to be paid to the Home Office.

### Transactions relating to post-employment benefits

The cost of retirement benefits are recognised in the Net Cost of Services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge required against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of retirement is reversed out of the General Fund in the MiRS.

The note below contains details of the Chief Constable's operation of the Local Government Pension Scheme (administered by Norfolk County Council) and the Police Pension Schemes in providing police staff and police officers with retirement benefits. In addition, the Chief Constable has arrangements for the payment of discretionary benefits to certain retired employees outside of the provisions of the schemes. Gains from settlements are due to staff being transferred to Norfolk County Council at the beginning of the year.

The following transactions have been made in the CIES and the General Fund via the MiRS during the year:

|   | LGP:<br>2020/21<br>£000 | S<br>2019/20<br>£000<br>Restated | Police Pensior<br>2020/21<br>£000 | ns Schemes<br>2019/20<br>£000<br>Restated |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement  |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| Cost of services  |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| Current service costs   | 12,784                  | 14,968                           | 40,290                            | 42,890                                    |
| Past service costs  | 25                      | 73                               | -                                 | (6,610)                                   |
| (Gain)/loss from settlement   | (140)                   | -                                | -                                 | -   |
| Financing and investment income and expenditure   |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| Net interest expense  | 2,107                   | 3,012                            | 37,800                            | 44,080                                    |
| Total post employment benefit charges to the surplus or deficit on the provision of service       | 14,776                  | 18,053                           | 78,090                            | 80,360                                    |
| Other post employment benefit charged to the CIES   |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| - Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)               | (43,660)                | 19,339                           | -                                 | -   |
| - Actuarial gains/losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions                          | 4,905                   | (9,042)                          | -                                 | (54,070)                                  |
| - Actuarial gains/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions                            | 100,478                 | (39,086)                         | 203,280                           | (66,210)                                  |
| - Other   | (3,009)                 | (13,934)                         | (44,905)                          | (34,646)                                  |
|   | 58,714                  | (42,723)                         | 158,375                           | (154,926)                                 |
| Total post employment benefit charged to the CIES   | 73,490                  | (24,670)                         | 236,465                           | (74,566)                                  |
| Movement in Reserves Statement (MIRS):  |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| Reversal of net charges made to the CIES for post employment benefits in accordance with the Code | (73,490)                | 24,670                           | (236,465)                         | 74,566                                    |
| Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:                  |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| Employers' contributions payable to scheme  | 8,115                   | 7,246                            | 40,055                            | 40,704                                    |
| Memo  |                         |                                  |                                   |   |
| Retirement benefits payable to pensioners   | (5,594)                 | (5,561)                          | (48,385)                          | (49,244)                                  |

## Assets and liabilities in relation to retirement benefits

|                              |           | Local GovernmentPolicePension SchemePension Schemes |             |             |             |             | Tot | al |
|------------------------------|-----------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----|----|
|                              | 2020/21   | 2019/20   | 2020/21     | 2019/20     | Pension S   | Schemes     |     |    |
| Present value of liabilities | (414,007) | (295,556)   | (1,876,690) | (1,680,280) | (2,290,697) | (1,975,836) |     |    |
| Fair value of plan assets    | 259,147   | 206,071   | -           | -           | 259,147     | 206,071     |     |    |
| Total net liabilities        | (154,860) | (89,485)  | (1,876,690) | (1,680,280) | (2,031,550) | (1,769,765) |     |    |

# Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities

|  | Local Government<br>Pension Scheme |                                 | Police<br>Pension Schemes |                                  |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | 2020/21<br>£000                    | 2019/20<br>£000                 | 2020/21<br>£000           | 2019/20<br>£000                  |
| Opening balance at 1 April   | 295,556                            | 337,660                         | 1,680,280                 | 1,795,550                        |
| Current service cost   | 12,784                             | 14,968                          | 40,290                    | 42,890                           |
| Interest cost  | 6,892                              | 8,260                           | 37,800                    | 44,080                           |
| Contributions by scheme participants   | 2,466                              | 2,166                           | 8,330                     | 8,540                            |
| Remeasurement (gains) and losses:<br>- Actuarial gains/losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions<br>- Actuarial gains/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions<br>- Other | 4,905<br>100,478<br>(3,014)        | (9,042)<br>(39,086)<br>(13,882) | -<br>203,280<br>(44,905)  | (54,070)<br>(66,210)<br>(34,646) |
| Past service costs   | 25                                 | 73                              | -                         | (6,610)                          |
| Benefits paid  | (5,594)                            | (5,561)                         | (48,385)                  | (49,244)                         |
| Effects of settlements Closing balance at 31 March   | (491)<br><b>414,007</b>            | -<br>295,556                    | _<br>1,876,690            | -<br>1,680,280                   |

## Reconciliation of fair value of the scheme assets

|  | Funded Assets<br>Local Government<br>Pension Scheme |                 | Unfunded Assets<br>Police<br>Pension Schemes |                 |
|--|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
|  | 2020/21<br>£000                                     | 2019/20<br>£000 | 2020/21<br>£000                              | 2019/20<br>£000 |
| Opening fair value of scheme assets at 1 April   | 206,071   | 216,259         | -  | -               |
| Interest income  | 4,785   | 5,248           | -  | -               |
| Remeasurement gain/(loss):   |   |                 |  |                 |
| - the return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense | 43,660  | (19,339)        | -  | -               |
| - other  | (5)   | 52              | -  | -               |
| Contributions from employer  | 8,115   | 7,246           | 40,055                                       | 40,704          |
| Contributions from employees into the scheme   | 2,466   | 2,166           | 8,330  | 8,540           |
| Benefits paid  | (5,594)   | (5,561)         | (48,385)                                     | (49,244)        |
| Effects of settlements   | (351)   | -               | -  | -               |
| Closing fair value of scheme assets at 31 March  | 259,147   | 206,071         | -  | -               |

The total net pensions liabilities of £2,032m represent the long run commitments in respect of retirement benefits and results in the balance sheet showing net overall liabilities of £2,033m. However, the financial position of the Chief Constable remains sound as the liabilities will be spread over many years as follows:

- The net liability on the local government scheme will be covered by contributions over the remaining working life of employees, as assessed by the scheme actuary.
- The net costs of police pensions which are the responsibility of the PCC will be covered by provision in the revenue budget and any costs above that level will be funded by the Home Office, under the change which came into effect from April 2006.

Actuarial losses on scheme assets represent the difference between the actual and expected return on assets, actuarial gains on scheme liabilities arise from more favourable financial assumptions.

The County Council is required to have a funding strategy for elimination of deficits, under regulations effective from 1 April 2005. The strategy allows deficits to be cleared over periods up to 20 years.

The Police Pension Schemes have no assets to cover their liabilities. The Chief Constable's share of the assets in the County Council Pension Fund are valued at fair value, principally market value for investments and consist of the categories in the following table.

|                                  | Fair Value of Sche<br>31 March<br>2021<br>£000 % |       | 31 March 2020 |       |
|----------------------------------|--|-------|---------------|-------|
| Cash and cash equivalents        | 4,042  | 1.56  | 5,452         | 2.65  |
|                                  | <b>,</b> -                                       |       | -, -          |       |
| Bonds - by sector                |  |       |               |       |
| - Government                     | 2,950  |       | 2,395         |       |
| Sub total bonds                  | 2,950  | 1.14  | 2,395         | 1.16  |
| Property - by type               |  |       |               |       |
| - UK property                    | 20,607   |       | 17,732        |       |
| - Overseas property              | 5,241  |       | 4,060         |       |
| Sub total property               | 25,848   | 9.97  | 21,792        | 10.57 |
| Private equity - all:            | 16,443   | 6.34  | 12,401        | 6.02  |
| Other investment funds:          |  |       |               |       |
| - Equities                       | 115,489  |       | 91,420        |       |
| - Bonds                          | 76,936   |       | 67,145        |       |
| - Infrastructure                 | 16,390   |       | 5,756         |       |
| - Other                          | 954  |       | 0             |       |
| Sub total other investment funds | 209,769  | 80.95 | 164,321       | 79.74 |
| Derivatives:                     |  |       |               |       |
| - Foreign exchange               | 96   |       | (289)         |       |
| Sub total derivatives            | 96   | 0.04  | (289)         | -0.14 |
| Total Assets                     | 259,147  | 100   | 206,071       | 100   |

The 31 March 2020 assets have been restated as there is no longer a need to break down equity values by type.

## Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc. Within the Police Schemes, the age profile of the active membership is not rising significantly, which means that the current service cost in future years will not rise significantly as a result of using the projected unit credit method.

The police officer schemes liabilities have been assessed by the Government Actuary Department and the LGPS liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson, an independent firm of actuaries. The actuary has confirmed that for police staff, there is no reason to believe that the age profile is rising significantly. The main assumptions used in their calculations are shown below.

|   |         | Local Government<br>Pension Scheme |         | e<br>hemes |
|---|---------|------------------------------------|---------|------------|
|   | 2020/21 | 2019/20                            | 2020/21 | 2019/20    |
| Mortality assumptions:                  |         |                                    |         |            |
| Longevity at 65 for current pensioners  |         |                                    |         |            |
| Men                                     | 21.9    | 21.7                               | 22.0    | 21.9       |
| Women                                   | 24.3    | 23.9                               | 23.7    | 23.6       |
| Longevity at 65 for future pensioners   |         |                                    |         |            |
| Men                                     | 23.2    | 22.8                               | 23.7    | 23.6       |
| Women                                   | 26.2    | 25.5                               | 25.3    | 25.2       |
| Rate of inflation (CPI)                 | 2.80%   | 1.80%                              | 2.40%   | 2.00%      |
| Rate of increases in salaries           | 3.50%   | 2.50%                              | 4.15%   | 4.00%      |
| Rate of increase in pensions            | 2.80%   | 1.80%                              | 2.40%   | 2.00%      |
| Rate for discounting scheme liabilities | 2.05%   | 2.30%                              | 2.00%   | 2.25%      |
| Rate of CARE revaluation                | n/a     | n/a                                | 3.65%   | 3.25%      |

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analyses shown in the table below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all others remain constant. The assumptions of longevity, for example, assume that the life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the following sensitivity analyses did not change from those used in the previous period.

|  | Local Government<br>Pension Scheme<br>Approximate Approximate<br>Increase to Monetary<br>Employers Amount<br>Liability |               | Pol<br>Pension S<br>Approximate<br>Increase to<br>Employers<br>Liability | Schemes |
|--|--|---------------|--|---------|
|  | %  | £000          | %  | £000    |
| 0.5% decrease in real discount rate        | 12.0%  | 50,545        | 10.0%  | 183,000 |
| 1 year increase in member life expectancy  | 3-5%   | 12,636-21,060 | 3.5%   | 64,000  |
| 0.5% increase in the salary increase rate  | 1.0%   | 6,005         | 1.0%   | 21,000  |
| 0.5% increase in the pension increase rate | 10.0%  | 43,440        | 9.0%   | 172,000 |

#### **Unlawful discrimination**

On 16 July 2020, HM Treasury issued a consultation regarding transitional arrangements for public sector pensions to eliminate discrimination as identified through the McCloud/Sargeant cases. This consultation introduced a requirement for members to have been members of the scheme on or before 31 March 2012 and on or after 1 April 2012 to be eligible for remedy.

On 4 February 2021, HM Treasury issued their response to the consultation which confirmed the remedy arrangements set out in the consultation, and states that members would be given a choice as to whether to retain benefits from their legacy

pension scheme, or their new scheme, during the remedy period (2015-2022). This choice will be deferred for members until retirement. As the findings of the original Employment Tribunal did not identify that the introduction of the new public sector pension schemes were discriminatory (rather it was the transitional provisions), the legacy schemes will be removed from April 2022 to be replaced by the new pension schemes originally introduced in 2015.

Paragraph 6.4.3.1 of the Code requires authorities to account for post-employment benefits for defined benefit schemes where there is either a legal obligation, under the formal terms of the defined benefit plan or a constructive obligation.

While the regulations underpinning the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), and Police Pension Schemes have yet to be amended, the outcomes of the two tribunals have been deemed to provide evidence that a legal obligation has been created under age-discrimination legislation, resulting in a liability. Furthermore, the 15 July 2019 written statement by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury that the McCloud and Sargeant judgements would apply to all public service pension schemes has also been deemed to provide evidence that there is a legal obligation.

In the 2018/19 statement of accounts, an actuarial assessment of liabilities arising from the judgement was accounted as a past service cost in the CIES, subsequent changes to the liability assessment in 2019/20 and 2020/21 have been accounted as an actuarial gain/loss within the remeasurement of the defined benefit liability line within the CIES.

The impact of an increase in annual pension payments arising from the above judgment is determined through The Police Pension and LGPS Regulations. These require the PCC and Chief Constable to maintain pension funds into which members and employer contributions are paid and out of which pension payments to retired members are made. Presently remedies for settlement have not been formalised in Pension Regulations, therefore it is questionable whether until then additional liabilities can be measured with sufficient reliability. It is also unclear whether the Government or the PCC and Chief Constable will carry the full financial burden for remedy.

### Valuations

Scheme liabilities will be measured through the pension valuation process, which determines employer and employee contribution rates. The last LGPS valuation took place in 2019 and the police pension valuation took place in 2020. Implementation of the latter valuation is planned for 2023/24 and forces will need to plan for the impact of this on employer contribution rates alongside other changes identified through the valuation process.

### Impact on the Chief Constable's cash flow

The objective of the LGPS scheme is to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. In September 2010 the Local Government Pensions Fund Committee approved an employer contribution rate stabilisation mechanism which limits annual changes in the employer contribution rate payable to +/-0.5% of pensionable pay.

Estimated employer's contributions for 2021/22 amount to  $\pounds$ 8.065m on the LGPS and  $\pounds$ 40.6m on the Police Schemes. The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for the LGPS is 25 years 2020/21 (25 years, 2019/20) and for the Police Schemes is 21.0 years, 2020/21 (21.0 years, 2019/20).

# 14. Creditors

The balance of creditors is made up of the following:

|                       | 31 March | 31 March |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
|                       | 2021     | 2020     |
|                       | £000     | £000     |
| Short term creditors: |          |          |
| Other payables        | 1,592    | 1,033    |
| Balance at 31 March   | 1,592    | 1,033    |

# **15. Collaborative Arrangements**

### Local Collaboration

Both Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are collaborating extensively across a range of service areas. At the point where collaborative opportunities are identified as able to deliver efficiencies, savings or improved service then the PCC is required to give their approval to collaborate. This is recognised by Norfolk and Suffolk alike.

The PCCs consider issues of mutual interest and discharge their governance responsibilities in line with the Scheme of Governance and Consent. The agreed shared costs of fully collaborated units that arose during the year was as follows:

|                            | Business<br>Support<br>£000 | Justice<br>Services<br>£000 | Protective<br>Services<br>£000 | County<br>Policing<br>£000 | Total<br>£000 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 2020/21                    |                             |                             |                                |                            |               |
| Suffolk PCC                | 18,158                      | 11,282                      | 15,586                         | 1,660                      | 46,686        |
| Norfolk PCC                | 23,874                      | 14,834                      | 20,493                         | 2,182                      | 61,383        |
| Total shared running costs | 42,032                      | 26,116                      | 36,079                         | 3,842                      | 108,069       |
| 2019/20                    |                             |                             |                                |                            |               |
| Suffolk PCC                | 17,272                      | 10,614                      | 15,104                         | 1,523                      | 44,513        |
| Norfolk PCC                | 22,895                      | 14,070                      | 20,022                         | 2,018                      | 59,006        |
| Total shared running costs | 40,167                      | 24,685                      | 35,127                         | 3,541                      | 103,520       |

## **Regional Collaboration**

Collaboration within the Region has been pursued for a number of years. Since the introduction of PCCs, the six PCCs from the region have met quarterly as a group with their Chief Constables and Chief Executives. All collaborations that have been entered into have a collaboration agreement which specifies the formalities of the collaboration arrangements in relation to specific collaborations.

Since October 2015 the six police areas in the Region have been joined by Kent in the 7Force Strategic Collaboration Programme. This has been formalised in a collaboration agreement entered into between the PCCs and Chief Constables of the seven police areas. The agreement has been regularly extended and the current extension runs until 31 March 2023.

The net expenditure incurred by each force is as follows:

|  | Total<br>2020/21<br>£000 | Total<br>2019/20<br>£000 |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Operating costs                          | 20,231                   | 21,834                   |
| Specific Home Office grant               | (4,796)                  | (4,336)                  |
| Other income                             |                          | -                        |
| Total deficit/ (surplus) for the year    | 15,435                   | 17,498                   |
| Contributions from forces:               |                          |                          |
| Bedfordshire                             | (1,746)                  | (1,997)                  |
| Cambridgeshire                           | (2,224)                  | (2,567)                  |
| Essex                                    | (1,735)                  | (1,953)                  |
| Hertfordshire                            | (3,159)                  | (3,607)                  |
| Kent                                     | (2,095)                  | (2,249)                  |
| Norfolk                                  | (2,542)                  | (2,918)                  |
| Suffolk                                  | (1,934)                  | (2,207)                  |
| Deficit/ (surplus) for the year          | -                        | -                        |
| Norfolk underspend held in Balance Sheet | -                        | -                        |

### **7Forces Procurement**

The business case to collaborate 7F Procurement was agreed at the Eastern Region Summit on 10 July 2018.

During 2019/20, procurement services across the Seven Forces; Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Norfolk and Suffolk have been collaborated to a single 7F Procurement function. This is the first full seven force function to go live across the Eastern region.

As a partnership of seven forces, this created the second largest contracting body in police procurement nationally. This provides greater economies of scale and better presence and 'buying power' for value for money contracts in the market place. The 7Forces Procurement vision is to enable the delivery of an effective police service and provide support for victims of crime in the eastern region by procuring and managing a high quality, value for money supply chain.

The 7Forces single procurement function was implemented during 2019/20 using a phased approach. The Senior Leadership Team went live on 1 September 2019, the Commercial Development and Governance team on 1 November 2019 and the Category Management team on 6 January 2020.

The net expenditure incurred by each force is as follows:

|                            | Total<br>2020/21<br>£000 | Total<br>2019/20<br>£000 |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Operating costs            | 2,469                    | 1,033                    |  |  |  |  |
| Contributions from forces: |                          |                          |  |  |  |  |
| Bedfordshire               | 205                      | 85                       |  |  |  |  |
| Cambridgeshire             | 260                      | 110                      |  |  |  |  |
| Hertfordshire              | 371                      | 154                      |  |  |  |  |
| Essex                      | 537                      | 226                      |  |  |  |  |
| Kent                       | 571                      | 238                      |  |  |  |  |
| Norfolk                    | 298                      | 125                      |  |  |  |  |
| Suffolk                    | 227                      | 94                       |  |  |  |  |
|                            | 2,469                    | 1,033                    |  |  |  |  |

## **National Collaboration**

West Yorkshire Police is the lead force for the National Police Air Service (NPAS). Police staff engaged in provision of the service were employed by the Commissioner and police officers were seconded to West Yorkshire Police. Expenditure relating to NPAS incurred by forces will be charged to West Yorkshire and they will charge forces for the service. The Home Office provides a capital grant to cover the capital investment required.

The service is governed by a section 22A collaboration agreement and is under the control of a Strategic Board made up of Commissioners and Chief Constables from each region. The Board determines the budget and the charging policy and monitors performance.

During the year £50k was payable to West Yorkshire PCC in respect of the NPAS service provided.

# **16.**Contingent Liabilities

### MMI Ltd

The insurance company Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited (MMI) ceased trading in 1992 and ceased to write new or renew policies. Potentially claims can still be received as the company continues to settle outstanding liabilities. A scheme of arrangement is in place; however, this arrangement will not meet the full liability of all claims and a current levy of 25% will be chargeable in respect of successful claims on MMI's customers. There is currently one open claim against Norfolk Constabulary. At this point in time, it is not possible to calculate the full amount payable on MMI claims.

### **Capped Overtime Claims**

The organisation has a liability in respect of historic overtime claims including Covert Human Intelligence Source (CHIS) handlers and other officers in analogous roles. Officers from Devon and Cornwall Police claimed successfully in the County Court (October 2013) that they were owed payments under Police Regulations 2003. Their claims were upheld at the Court of Appeal. The claims relate to a cap being placed on overtime claims by the Chief Constable. Overtime caps were generally applied across the police service for CHIS handlers and other similar roles. Provision has been made in the Statement of Accounts for known claims. However, as with other forces, Norfolk Constabulary may receive further claims from officers working in non-handler and undercover roles. The potential number of claims or an estimate of their value has yet to be made. Many claims cover the period when the units were under joint collaborative control with Suffolk Constabulary, therefore where applicable any settlements will be shared in the appropriate cost sharing ratio.

Overtime claims relating to ERSOU officers are currently being assessed, at this point in time it is unclear whether Norfolk Constabulary will be liable to a proportion of the claims associated with ERSOU officers employed by other forces, a regional agreement has yet to be confirmed.

In addition to the settlement costs, Norfolk Constabulary will also be liable to a share of the legal costs arising for national lead claims, presently these costs are unknown.

### **Forensic Service Uncertainty**

The validity of evidence provided by a forensic testing company to the police service is currently under investigation. It is reasonable to anticipate that some people may have been convicted of offences based on flawed data and that conviction will have had a significant impact on their personal circumstances. As a result, some kind of litigation is possible. At this point in time it is not possible to assess the number of claims or the financial exposure arising from them.

### **Unlawful Discrimination – Pension Fund Regulations**

The Chief Constable of Norfolk currently has 64 Employment Tribunal claims lodged against him in respect of alleged unlawful discrimination arising from the Transitional Provisions in the Police Pension Regulations 2015. Similar claims have been lodged against all forces in the UK.

The claims against the Police Pension Scheme (the Aarons case) had previously been stayed behind the McCloud/Sargeant judgement, but a case management meeting was held in Oct 2019, with the resulting Order including an interim declaration that the claimants are entitled to be treated as if they had been given full transitional protection and had remained in their existing scheme after 1 April 2015. Whilst the interim declaration applied only to claimants, the Government made clear through a Written Ministerial Statement on 25 March 2020 that non-claimants would be treated in the same way. Liabilities reflecting the judgement have therefore been provided for in these financial statements.

However, in addition to the remedy, claimants have lodged claims for compensation for injury to feelings. Test cases for these claims are due to be heard by the Employment Tribunal in December 2021. Claims for financial losses are currently stayed as consideration is given to the HM Treasury consultation response. As at 31 March 2021, it is not possible to reliably estimate the extent or likelihood of these claims being successful. As a result, no liability is recognised in the accounts.

# 17. Going Concern

The concept of a going concern assumes that the functions of the PCC and the Constabulary will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The provisions in the Code in respect of going concern reporting requirements reflect the economic and statutory environment in which police forces operate. These provisions confirm that, as the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Constabulary cannot be created or dissolved without statutory prescription, they must prepare their financial statements on a going concern basis of accounting.

PCCs and Chief Constables carry out functions essential to the local community and are themselves revenue-raising bodies (with limits on their revenue-raising powers arising only at the discretion of central government). If a police force were in financial difficulty, the prospect is that alternative arrangements would be made by central government either for the continuation of the functions it provides or for assistance with the recovery of a deficit over more than one financial year. As a result of this, it would not therefore be appropriate for the financial statements to be provided on anything other than a going concern basis. Accounts drawn up under the Code therefore assume that a police force will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

The current restrictions in place within the UK in response to Covid-19 have created issues for police forces in terms of policing the government lockdown policy in addition to continuing normal policing functions. An assessment of additional costs of policing arising from Covid-19 has been made in respect of the impact on 2020/21. Due to the impact of the pandemic, and the risks associated with the financial impact in 2020/21 and on future years funding, the constabulary took prudent actions to control spending and protect reserves. This response is providing a proportionate level of reserves to absorb any funding constraints that may arise in the expected 3-year Comprehensive Spending Review.

As a last resort, the PCC maintains a General Reserve of  $\pounds 4.475$ m, has increased the Budget Support Reserve to  $\pounds 3.378$ m and has an Invest to Save Reserve of  $\pounds 2.125$ m that in extremis would be used to manage the financial risks of major incidents. However, through the prudent action taken to control spending in-year as a response to the pandemic, and due to the additional funding made available by the Home Office the Group recorded an outturn underspend of £0.685m.

Government has now established a roadmap to ease restrictions over a period of time, and policing will adapt to what needs to be delivered through these changes. At this point, the constabulary has moved into being very close to its business as usual model and is not incurring any significant costs in respect of the pandemic.

A high-level scenario planning exercise has been completed and compared against our current MTFP assumptions. The budget gap for 2022/23 ranges between reasonable pragmatic case (£0.567) to worst case (£3.851m) given a range of assumptions on government funding, precept decisions, tax base growth and collection fund deficits. The guidelines to Heads of Department in regard of the new Strategic & Financial Planning process (using Outcome Based Budgeting principles) have taken into account the scenario plans. The constabulary has been rated as outstanding in terms of efficiency, and has a proven track record on delivering required savings in order to balance the budget.

Taking a worst-case funding scenario, and a worst-case assumption that no savings are identified (which will not happen), general fund balances including earmarked reserves at 31 March 2022 would reduce to approximately £14.169m. This still remains well above our minimum level of general fund balance as set by the PCC CFO of £4.475m.

Taking into account the availability of useable reserves, the capacity to finance the current gap between external borrowing and the capital financing requirement and the ability to borrow on a short-term basis to prudently fund any temporary shortfall of cash; the PCC is able to demonstrate that he has sufficient liquid resources until 12 months from the date the audit report is signed to meet all liabilities as they fall due.

Therefore, following our review of the financial impact of Covid-19 on current and future finances, it has been concluded that there is no material uncertainty relating to going concern.

# **Police Pension Fund Accounting Statements Fund Account**

| 2019      | /20         |   |              | 2020               | /21      |
|-----------|-------------|---|--------------|--------------------|----------|
| £000      | £000        |   |              | £000               | £000     |
|           |             | Contributions receivable                            |              |                    |          |
|           |             | Employer  |              |                    |          |
|           | 17,764      | Normal  |              | 18,975             |          |
|           | 399         | Early retirements                                   |              | 255                |          |
| 18,162    |             |   |              |                    | 19,229   |
|           |             | Members   |              |                    |          |
|           | 7,682       | Normal  |              | 8,267              |          |
| 7,682     |             |   |              |                    | 8,267    |
|           |             | Transfers in  |              |                    |          |
|           | 900         | Individual transfers in from other schemes          |              | 160                |          |
| 900       |             |   |              |                    | 160      |
|           |             | Benefits payable                                    |              |                    |          |
|           | (38,456)    | Pensions  |              | (39,687)           |          |
|           | (8,708)     | Commutations and lump sum retirement benefits       |              | (6,946)            |          |
|           | (490)       | Other   |              | (79)               |          |
| (47,653)  |             |   |              |                    | (46,712) |
|           |             | Payments to and on account of leavers               |              |                    |          |
|           | (18)        | Refunds on contributions                            |              | (20)               |          |
| (18)      |             |   |              |                    | (20)     |
| (20,927)  |             | Net amount payable for the year before contribution | n from the P | olice General Fund | (19,076) |
| 20,927    |             | Contribution from the Police General Fund           |              |                    | 19,076   |
| -         |             | Net balance receivable for the year                 |              |                    | -        |
| ot Assots | and Liabili | tios  |              |                    |          |
| CI M33615 | 2019/20     |   | 2020/21      |                    |          |
|           | £000        |   | £000         |                    |          |
|           | ~000        | Net current assets                                  | ~000         |                    |          |
|           | -           | Net balance receivable from the Police General Fund | -            |                    |          |
| -         | -           | Net Current Assets at 31 March                      | -            |                    |          |
| -         |             |   |              |                    |          |

The actuarial valuation has set the employer contribution rate for all three police pension schemes from 1 April 2019 at 31% of pensionable pay. A pensions top-up grant from the Home Office is received which funds contributions to a level of 21.3% and in 2020/21 a specific grant of £1.6m was received to part fund the cost of this change in contribution rates. The Constabulary funds the resulting balance, which amounted to £4.4m in 2020/21 (2019/20 - £4.0m).

# **Glossary of terms**

For the purposes of the statement of accounts the following definitions have been adopted:

## Accruals basis

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

## Actual return on plan assets

The difference between the fair value of plan assets at the end of the period and the fair value at the beginning of the period, adjusted for contributions and payments of benefits.

## Actuarial gains and losses

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because:

- a) Events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuations (experience gains and losses) or
- b) The actuarial assumptions have changed

## CIPFA

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

## **Contingent liability**

A contingent liability is either:

- a) A possible obligation arising from past events; it may be confirmed only if particular events happen in the future that are not wholly within the local authority's control; or
- b) A present obligation arising from past events, where economic transactions are unlikely to be involved or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

## **Current Service Costs**

The increase in pension liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year.

## Defined benefit scheme

A pension or other retirement benefit scheme other than a defined contribution scheme. Usually, the scheme rules define the benefits independently of the contributions payable and the benefits are not directly related to the investments of the scheme. The scheme may be funded or unfunded (including notionally funded).

## **Government grants**

Part of the cost of service is paid for by central government from its own tax income. Specific grants are paid by the Home Office to the Group towards both revenue and capital expenditure.

## Group

The term Group refers to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Norfolk and the Chief Constable (CC) for Norfolk.

## Outturn

The actual amount spent in the financial year.

## **Past Service Costs**

The increase in pension liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to year of service earned in earlier years.

## **Projected Unit Credit Method**

An accrued benefits valuation method in which the scheme liabilities make allowance for projected earnings.

An accrued benefits valuation method is a valuation method in which the scheme liabilities at the valuation date relate to:

- a) The benefits for pensioners and deferred pensioners (i.e. individuals who have ceased to be active members but are entitled to benefits payable at a later date) and their dependants, allowing where appropriate for future increases, and
- b) The accrued benefits for members in service on the valuation date.

The accrued benefits are the benefits for service up to a given point in time, whether vested rights or not. Guidance on the projected unit credit method is given in the Guidance Note GN26 issued by the Faculty and Institute of Actuaries.

## Precept

The proportion of the budget raised from council tax.

## Provision

Amount set aside to provide for a liability which is likely to be incurred, but the exact amount and the date on which it will arise is uncertain.

## PWLB

The Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) is a statutory body operating within the United Kingdom Debt Management Office, an Executive Agency of HM Treasury. PWLB's function is to lend money from the National Loans Fund to local authorities and other prescribed bodies and to collect the repayments.

## **Related parties**

Two or more parties are related parties when at any time during the financial period:

- a) One party has direct or indirect control of the other party; or
- b) The parties are subject to common control from the same source; or
- c) One party has influence over the financial and operational policies of the other party so that the other party might not always feel free to pursue its own separate interests; or
- d) The parties, in entering a transaction, are subject to influence from the same source to such an extent that one of the parties to the transaction has subordinated its own separate interests.

## **Retirement Benefits**

All forms of consideration given by an employer in exchange for services rendered by employees that are payable after the completion of employment. Retirement benefits do not include termination benefits payable as a result of either (i) an employer's decision to terminate an employee's employment before the normal retirement date or (ii) an employee's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits, because these are not given in exchange for services rendered by employees.

## Scheme Liabilities

The liabilities of a defined benefit scheme for outgoings due after the valuation date. Scheme liabilities measured using the projected unit credit method reflect the

benefits that the employer is committed to provide for service up to the valuation date.

## Settlement

An irrevocable action that relieves the employer (or the defined benefit scheme) of the primary responsibility for a pension obligation and eliminates significant risks relating to the obligation and the assets used to affect the settlement. Settlements include:

- a) a lump-sum cash payment to scheme members in exchange for their rights to receive specified pension benefits;
- b) the purchase of an irrevocable annuity contract sufficient to cover vested benefits; and
- c) the transfer of scheme assets and liabilities relating to a group of employees leaving the scheme.

# Vested Rights

In relation to a defined benefit scheme, these are:

- a) for active members, benefits to which they would unconditionally be entitled to on leaving the scheme;
- b) for deferred pensioners, their preserved benefits;
- c) for pensioners, pensions to which they are entitled.

Vested rights include where appropriate the related benefits for spouses or other dependants.