Date: Monday 12th April 2021

Dear FOI Applicant,

Thank you for your email dated 9 April 2021, in relation to your freedom of information request received in this office on 12 March 2021 in which you asked:

**“Please could you share the formula and costings used to calculate the figure of "£175m" used in this press release?**

<https://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/new-calls-on-moving-civil-servants-into-spare-space-in-police-stations/>**”**

Firstly, we would like to offer our apologies for the clerical error within our previous response dated 8th April 2021.

For clarification, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner can confirm that the £175m reduction was calculated by comparing the level of core government funding in 2021/22 to the level received in 2010/11. This was after adjusting the 2021/22 figure for the police officer uplift programme.

As a result, the £175m real terms reduction has been calculated by applying a 31.7% real terms reduction in funding from 2010/11 to 2019/20 to the £547,666,284 which was the Government funding formula level in 2010/11 for West Midlands Police. The Government funding formula does not include the income from the police council tax precept. To calculate the real term reduction, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) deflators was applied.

Please see the updated attachment which details the levels of funding by each financial year, **“FOI 088-21 - Shared Space in Police Stations – Attachment 1”.**

The information in the attachment was provided by an independent organisation called the Police and Crime Commissioner Treasurers’ Society. The 2019/20 analysis is used because this does not include the impacts of the Police Officer Uplift Programme.

To assist you with your understanding detailed below is a copy of the formula that was used to arrive at the 31.7% real terms reduction in funding.

Real Terms Reduction in Funding Formula =

**(434/(548\*(1+0.0131)\*(1+0.0201)\*(1+0.0183)\*(1+0.0128)\*(1+0.008)\*(1+0.0222)\*(1+0.019)\*(1+0.0182)\*(1+0.0179)))-1**

The £548m is the level of funding formula referred to above and included in the attachment for 2010/11. The £434m is the government core funding in 2019/20 also detailed in the attached.

The other numbers in the formula, for example the 0.0131 is applying the GDP deflators each year. This is to factor in the impacts of inflation to arrive at a real terms reduction. The GDP deflators are published on the government’s website through the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/gdp-deflators-at-market-prices-and-money-gdp>

The formula will calculate a real terms reduction of 31.7%. When this percentage is applied to the £548m referred to above the result is a real terms reduction of £173.8m. This is then rounded to the nearest £5m to arrive at the £175m.

**Freedom of Information Right of Appeal**

Any person who has requested information from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and is unhappy with the way their request for information has been handled can request a review of their case.

A request for review must be made in writing by letter or email. You should include the reference number of your request if you have it, and outline why you are requesting the review to:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Lloyd House

Birmingham

B4 6NQ

Telephone: 0121 626 6060

Email: west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

All requests for review will be recorded. Receipt of a request for internal review will be acknowledged and the appellant informed of an estimated date for determining the outcome. The OPCC will attempt to respond to internal reviews as soon as practicable and in any case within two months.

All investigations will be undertaken by someone not involved in the original response.

The result of any internal review will be communicated to the appellant outlining the decisions taken.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: www.ico.gov.uk

There is no charge for making a request for internal review or appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,



Alethea Fuller

Deputy Chief Executive