

Chief Constables' Council

Please select intended audience: Chief Constables Council

Title: NPCC Operating Budget 2026-27 Funding Prioritisation Exercise Update

Agenda Item: Session 1 - Regional

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When completing the Chief Constables' Council submission template the below 3D model agreed at the December 23 meeting should be reviewed and the paper written against for completion and final submission to the respective Coordination Committee and then onward to the NPCC Business Support team managing Chiefs' Council via CCC ccc@npcc.police.uk

Decision	Discussion	Dissemination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the item is for decision, what is/are the decision(s) that are sought from council? • Has it been through the relevant Committee first? Is the decision appropriate for delegation? • Has it been through the Regional process? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the item is for discussion, is it for discussion with Chief Constables, all Chief Officers, Heads of Departments, a particular Committee? • If it is for a group other than Chief Constables, use the relevant forum. If it is for Chief Constables, be clear on the points for discussion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the item is for information only, who is it for? Can it be disseminated via another route than CCC, such as ChiefsNet, email, or an All Chief Officers Day? • If it is purely for Chief Constables, be clear on why it needs to come to CCC for dissemination.

Please indicate what the paper is requesting: Dissemination

At September's Chief Constables' Council, I outlined the process we would follow this year to review bids for funding from the NPCC Operating Budget. At that time, there was a funding gap of £7.9 million. Since then, three bids have been withdrawn by the Crime Committee, reducing the gap to £1.3 million.

On 2 October 2025, I wrote to you all requesting completion of the Funding Prioritisation Exercise by the deadline of 16 October 2025. This was to enable me to provide an update through the Chief Constables' Council regional process ahead of the December Council meeting.

Each force was asked to review the bids outlined in the prospectus and complete the prioritisation framework, indicating which bids they felt should receive the limited funding available.

To date, we have received 27 returns from police forces across England and Wales, therefore a complete picture of preferences to fund is not fully available.

However, from the responses received so far, there is high level of support for the following 15 bids. I will therefore be recommending that council support these bids for the year 2026-27. Please also note that each bid in the below table has been assessed for opportunities to reduce the amount of funding being requested.

1	3. Pension Team	£167,605
2	5. Undercover Policing Public Inquiry	£1,556,300
3	7. COVID Inquiry	£0
4	1. NPCC Central Office	£2,851,640
5	4. Pay & Rewards Team	£592,192
6	6. Op Elter – Operation Montrose	£358,748
7	2. PPE Covid Store (Upper Heyford)	£37,000

8	8. NPoCC Operations	£3,410,636
9	9. NPoCC Strategic Intelligence and Briefing (SIB)	£3,295,569
10	11. ACRO Criminal Records Office (ACRO)	£2,437,500
11	22. Forensic Collision Investigation Network	£3,640,848
12	20. National Police Freedom of Information and Data Protection Unit	£675,000
13	25. UK Casualty Bureau Coordinator	£114,647
14	16. Forensic Capability Network (FCN)	£2,989,881
15	13. MAPPA Policy Lead	£48,750

The remaining 16 funding bids showed more varied levels of prioritisation for funding. To make best use of our time in ****S31(1)****, I am recommending that we focus our discussion on whether to fund the 16 bids in the below table.

It should be noted that some of the function listed below have significant closure cost, should funding not be continued. I will attempt to get more detail on this impact for presentation at council.

16	15. OPAL	£768,811
17	17. Dynamic Decision and Case Management System (DDACCs)	£523,289
18	28. College of Policing: Firearms Licensing	£471,388
19	31. National Intelligence Professionalisation Long Term Delivery	£463,059
20	26. Less Lethal Weapons	£302,454
21	10. Police Race Action Plan	£294,675
22	21. National Safeguarding Management and VPC Standards	£267,756
23	24. College of Policing: Taser Licensing and Quality Assurance	£210,642
24	14. National Wildlife Crime Unit	£203,190
25	29. College of Policing: Police Driver Training	£184,498
26	23. College of Policing: Personal and Public Safety Training	£164,202
27	27. Op Bridges	£122,643
28	12. National Chaplaincy	£115,236
29	30. Internet Intelligence and Investigator Manager	£109,387
30	18. Independent Medical Advisor (Custody)	£21,600
31	19. National Police Estates Group (NPEG, partial FTE)	£15,000

Chief Constable Paul Sanford

NPCC Finance Coordination Committee Chair