Appendix 1

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the PCC's transactions for the 2015/16 financial year and its position at the year end of 31 March 2016. The PCC is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 which require the statements to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2015/16 and the Service Reporting Code of Authority Accounting 2015/16, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards.

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.

All accounting policies that are material to the production of the accounts are described in this section.

1.2 Prior period adjustments and Changes in Accounting Policies

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the PCC's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

1.3 Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received.

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the PCC transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the PCC;
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the PCC can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the PCC;

- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

1.4 Non-Current Assets – Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are tangible items that are:

- Held for operational use, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes; and
- Expected to be used during more than one period.

1.4.1 Classification

Property, plant and equipment is classified under the following headings in the PCC's Balance Sheet:

Operational Assets:

- Land and Buildings;
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment;

Non-Operational Assets:

- Surplus Assets; and
- Assets Under Construction.

1.4.2 Initial Recognition

To be recognised as an item of property, plant and equipment an asset must:

- Yield benefits to the PCC for more than a year; and
- Have a cost which can be measured reliably.

Assets are initially measured at cost on an accruals basis, comprising all expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use and costs incurred subsequently to enhance, replace part of, or service it as long as the above criteria are met. This

excludes expenditure on training, routine repairs and maintenance, which are charged directly to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

The PCC does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

Further details relating to capital expenditure are set out in the PCC's Capitalisation Policy.

1.4.3 De Minimis Level

The PCC has a £10k de minimis level for recognising property, plant and equipment. This means that any item or scheme which meets the above criteria which is greater than £10k will be treated as capital. Items below £10k may also be considered for capital expenditure on a case by case basis. This relates to initial recognition and subsequent expenditure on assets.

1.4.4 Subsequent Expenditure

Where subsequent expenditure enhances an asset beyond its original specification, the directly attributable cost is added to the asset's carrying value. Where subsequent expenditure is simply restoring the asset to the specification assumed by its economic useful life then the expenditure is charged to operating expenses. Where considered appropriate, the cost of the replacement is capitalised if it meets the criteria for recognition above.

Where material, the carrying value of the component replaced is de-recognised. Where the value is not known the value of the enhancement is used as a proxy. Indexation is used to deduce historic cost and a revaluation reserve. De-recognition costs are charged initially against any revaluation reserve for the asset and then to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

1.4.5 Measurement after Recognition – Valuation Approach

Property, Plant and Equipment assets are valued on the basis recommended by CIPFA and in accordance with the Practice Statements in the Appraisal and Valuation Standards published by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), in particular UK Practice Statement 1.1 – 1.3. Land and building valuations have been carried out by Lambert Smith Hampton, members of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The PCC may rely on the advice of other relevant expert managers to value other assets.

Property, Plant and Equipment assets are classified into the groupings required by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. All operational and non-operational land and properties (including Investment Properties) were subjected to a full revaluation exercise at 1 April 2011. This valuation has been updated as at 31 March each year since, by way of a desktop revaluation of all assets.

All valuations are in accordance with the capital accounting rules on the following basis:

1.5 Operational Assets

1.5.1 Land and Operational Properties:

Where the assets are considered by the valuers to be "specialist" in nature (for example custody suites in operational police stations) they are valued at depreciated replacement cost (DRC), reflecting their value to the PCC in their current use. Because of the specialist nature of these buildings, the DRC value is normally higher than open market value. Where the assets are not considered to be "specialist" in nature, they are valued at fair value. Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arms-length transaction. For this section of the Code, fair value (for land and buildings) is to be interpreted as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use. This requirement is met by providing a valuation on the basis of existing use value (EUV) in accordance with UKPS 1.3 of the RICS Valuation Standards. Also note that:

Vehicles, plant and equipment, where they are determined to have short asset lives, are measured at historic cost; and

Furniture and non-specialist equipment are valued as a proportion of the building and have also been revalued in accordance with the movement in value of the host building.

1.6 Non-Operational Assets

1.6.1 Surplus assets

Assets which the PCC no longer operates/are no longer used for service delivery, but are not investment properties or meet the definition for held for sale. They are valued, measured and depreciated in line with the operational asset class; and

1.6.1 Assets Under Construction

Held at historical cost. When these assets are operationally complete they will be reclassified into the appropriate asset class and valued under the adopted approach.

1.7 Valuation Programme

In years when there is a full revaluation (every 5 years) the steps to account for assets involve valuing assets at the start of the financial year, and then considering impairment issues at the end of the year

In all other years (including the 2015/16 financial year) the year end valuation encompasses all changes in value, whether from additions, disposals, changes in market value, impairment or other consumption of economic benefits

1.8 Component Accounting for Property, Plant and Equipment

The Code requires that assets included within property, plant and equipment are broken down into significant component parts. Where a large asset, for example

a building, includes a number of components with significantly different asset lives then these components can be treated as separate assets and depreciated over their own useful economic lives. Only those components with material values and significantly different useful lives are classified as separate components in the asset register. Only assets with a value of at least £500k are reviewed for potential components.

Further details for component accounting are set out in the PCC's Componentisation Policy.

1.9 Revaluation Gains and Losses

Movements in value arising from revaluation of assets are reflected in the value of these assets held on the Balance Sheet.

1.9.1 Recognising a Revaluation Gain or Loss

Increases as a result of revaluations are debited to the appropriate asset account, with the opposite entry going to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains, except to the extent where it reverses a previous revaluation loss that was charged to a service revenue account within the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. In this case the revaluation gain will first be used to offset the previous loss and any further gain is then taken to the Revaluation Reserve. Component assets are treated as separate assets and therefore revalued separately. Revaluation gains charged to Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account and reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Decreases as a result of revaluation which are not specific to one asset but affect several are revaluation losses rather than impairments. The decrease is recognised in the Revaluation Reserve up to the balance in respect of each asset affected and then in Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Any such charge taken to Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services is then transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account and reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Any movements on revaluation arising before this date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

1.10 Depreciation

Depreciation is charged on all assets with a finite useful life (which can be determined at the time of acquisition or revaluation). Depreciation is charged against assets from the month they are capitalised, to the month that they are disposed, decommissioned or reach the end of their useful life.

The policy on useful asset life is as follows:

- Operational buildings (other than temporary buildings) are depreciated over their estimated useful life of between 20 and 50 years as estimated by the valuer;
- Furniture and non-specialist equipment is depreciated over 15 years;

- Vehicles, plant and specialist equipment (including computing equipment) are depreciated over their estimated useful lives (between 3 and 8 years dependent on the asset).

Depreciation is calculated as the current cost of the asset divided by the useful existing life of the asset. Hence, revaluation gains are depreciated as well as the historic cost of the asset, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on the historic cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

For surplus assets awaiting disposal, depreciation is not charged to services. Rather, it is charged to non-distributed costs in the Income & Expenditure Statement. No depreciation is charged on: land; assets under construction; and assets held for sale. Depreciation of an asset begins when the asset becomes available for use and ceases when the asset has been de-recognised.

1.11 Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment

An item of property, plant and equipment shall be de-recognised on disposal; or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising from disposals is shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Any receipt from the sale of an item on the asset register is categorised as capital receipts and can only be used for new capital investment or to repay the principal of any amounts borrowed.

1.12 Impairment of Non-Current Assets

If an asset's carrying amount is more than its recoverable amount, the asset is described as impaired. Circumstances that might indicate that an impairment has occurred include:

- Significant decline in an asset's market value during the period that is specific to the asset;
- Evidence of obsolescence or physical damage of an asset;
- Commitment by the PCC to undertake a significant reorganisation; or
- Significant change in the statutory environment in which the PCC operates.

1.12.1 Recognising an Impairment

Impairment losses are initially recognised against the revaluation reserve for that asset, up to the balance available. Any remaining loss is charged in the Surplus or Deficit on provision of services. This is then reversed through the Movement in Reserves Statement and charged to the Capital Adjustment Account.

1.13 Intangible Assets

Intangible assets are defined as an identifiable non-financial (monetary) asset without physical substance, but are under the control of the PCC, and expected to provide future economic or service benefits.

For the PCC, the most common classes of intangible assets are software licences. Software which is integral to the operation of hardware, e.g., an operating system, is capitalised as part of the relevant item of property, plant or equipment. Software which is not integral to the operation of hardware, e.g., application software, is capitalised as an intangible asset.

1.13.1 Recognition and Measurement

Recognition of assets that qualify as an intangible asset are measured initially at cost. Costs that are directly associated with the development of intangible assets for internal use by the PCC are recognised under this heading, including employee costs.

Intangible assets are determined to have short asset lives and are carried at amortised cost in the Balance Sheet after initial recognition.

1.13.2 De Minimis Level

The PCC has no de minimis level for recognising intangible assets. This relates to initial recognition and subsequent expenditure on assets.

1.13.3 Subsequent Expenditure

Costs associated with maintaining intangible assets are recognised as an expense when incurred in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

1.13.4 Amortisation

The carrying value of intangible assets with a finite life is amortised on a straight line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. Amortisation is charged to the relevant service area in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Intangible assets are all amortised over an estimated useful life of 5 years.

1.14 Investment Properties

An investment property is defined as a property that is solely held to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both.

1.14.1 Initial Recognition

Investment properties are measured initially at cost which includes the costs associated with the purchase.

1.14.2 Measurement after Recognition

Investment properties are measured subsequently at fair value. Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's-length transaction.

1.14.3 **Revaluation Gains and Losses**

A gain or loss arising from a change in the fair value of investment property is recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

1.14.4 **Depreciation**

Depreciation is not charged on investment properties.

1.14.5 **Disposal of Investment Properties**

Gains or losses arising from the disposal of an investment property are recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. As with all capital receipts, on de-recognition of an investment property the charge to the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services shall be reversed out of the General Fund and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sales proceeds greater than £10k) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

1.14.6 **Rentals**

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance.

1.15 Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the following criteria are met as at the Balance Sheet date:

- The asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition subject to terms that are usual and customary for sales of such assets;
- The sale is highly probable (with management commitment to sell and active marketing of the asset initiated);
- It is actively marketed for a sale at a price that is reasonable in relation to its current fair value; and
- The sale should be expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year.

1.15.1 **Measurement**

Non-Current Assets Held for Sale are measured at the lower of carrying value and fair value less costs to sell (fair value here is the amount that would be paid for the asset in its highest and best use, i.e., market value).

1.15.2 Depreciation

Depreciation is not charged on non-current assets held for sale.

1.15.3 Disposal

Receipts from disposals are recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services.

Any receipt from the sale of an item on the asset register is categorised as capital receipts and can only be used for new capital investment or to repay the principal of any amounts borrowed.

1.16 Charges to Revenue for the use of Non-Current Assets

Police services and central support services are charged with a capital charge for all non-current assets used in the provision of services to record the real cost of holding non-current assets during the year. The total charge covers:

- The annual provision for depreciation;
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off;
- Amortisation of intangible assets.

The PCC is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make a prudent annual provision from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement. This is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision.

1.17 Minimum Revenue Provision

The PCC makes provision for the repayment of debt in accordance with the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008. This requires the PCC to set a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) which it considers to be prudent.

The accounts are charged with a capital charge for all non-current assets used in the provision of services. The total charge covers:

- The annual provision for depreciation;
- Impairment losses attributable to the clear consumption of economic benefits on non-current assets used by the PCC and other losses where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which they can be written off;
- Amortisation of intangible assets attributable to the service;
- The annual contribution towards the reduction in overall borrowing, in accordance with the PCC's approved policy;
- 4% of the Capital Financing Requirement as at 31 March 2008, adjusted for repayments made since that date;

- 4% of any additional borrowing from 2008/09 onwards within our allocation of supported capital expenditure;
- Other borrowing from 2008/09 onwards, a repayment based on the asset life method.

Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by a revenue provision in the Movement in Reserves Statement, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account for the difference between the two.

1.18 Revenue Expenditure Financed through Capital under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but does not result in the creation of a non-current asset in the Balance Sheet has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service revenue account in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year.

Statutory provision reverses these charges from the Surplus or Deficit on provision of services by debiting the Capital Adjustment Account and crediting the General Fund Balance through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

1.19 Classification of Leases

Leases are classified as a finance lease or an operating lease depending on the extent to which risks and rewards of ownership (substance of the transaction over its legal form) of a leased asset lie with the lessor (landlord) or the lessee (tenant).

IAS 17 'Leases' includes indicators for the classification of leases as a finance lease. Within these indicators the PCC has set the following criteria: the 'major part' of the asset life is determined to be 75%; and 'substantially all' of the value is determined to be 75%.

Finance Lease

A lease is classified as a finance lease when the lease arrangement transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset to the lessee.

Operating Lease

All other leases are determined to be operating leases.

1.20 Finance Leases

Lessee – Vehicles, Plant & Equipment

Where a lease arrangement is identified as a finance lease and where the PCC is the lessee, the asset is recognised on the Balance Sheet at cost, and depreciated on a straight line basis over the term of the lease (in line with the PCCs capitalisation and depreciation policy for Vehicles, Plant and Equipment).

Lessee – Property

Where a property lease arrangement is identified as a finance lease and where the PCC is the lessee, the asset is recognised on the Balance Sheet at an amount

equal to the fair value of the property, or if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, determined at the inception of the lease.

In both cases above, a liability is also recognised at the asset value. This is reduced as lease payments are made.

Minimum lease payments are to be apportioned between the finance charge (interest) and the reduction of the deferred liability.

The finance charge (interest) will be charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, and then transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account through the Movement In Reserves statement.

Lessor – Property

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Where a property lease arrangement is identified as a finance lease and where the PCC is the lessor, an asset is recognised on the Balance Sheet as a debtor at an amount equal to the net investment in the lease. The lease payment is treated as repayment of principal and finance income (interest).

Initial direct costs are included in the initial measurement of the debtor and recognised as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as the income.

Rental income from finance leases entered into after 1 April 2010 should be treated as a capital receipt.

1.21 Operating Leases

Lessee – Property, Vehicles, Plant & Equipment

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Where a lease arrangement is identified as an operating lease and where the PCC is the lessee, the lease payments are treated as revenue expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Lessor – Property, Vehicles, Plant & Equipment

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Where a lease arrangement is identified as an operating lease and where the PCC is the lessor, an asset is shown within non-current assets according to the nature of the asset. (See above Property, Plant & Equipment policy.)

Lease income from operating leases shall be recognised as income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.22 Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the PCC when there is reasonable assurance that:

- The PCC will comply with the conditions attached to the payments;
- The grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the PCC are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached 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 in the form of 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 as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure (non-ring-fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

1.23 Debtors

Debtors are recognised in the accounts when the ordered goods or services have been delivered or rendered by the PCC by the 31 March but the income has not yet been received.

Debtors are recognised and measured at fair value in the accounts. There is no de-minimis for capital or revenue income accruals.

Where there are differences between the Group and PCC balance at 31 March the note will show both balances.

1.24 Creditors

Creditors are recorded where goods or services have been supplied to the PCC by 31 March but payment is not made until the following financial year.

Creditors are recognised and measured at fair value in the accounts. There is no de-minimis for capital or revenue accruals.

Where there are differences between the Group and PCC balance at 31 March the note will show both balances.

1.25 Debt impairment

The PCC makes a provision for debts which may go bad or not be paid in full. Where it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the fair value of that debt is written down accordingly and a charge made to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement for the income that might not be collected.

The PCC's policy is to review outstanding debts annually in order to allow for debt impairment.

1.26 Inventories

Inventory assets include materials or supplies to be consumed or distributed in the rendering of services. This includes fuel, uniforms and general stores. These are

carried at the lower of cost (calculated as an average price) or current replacement cost (at the Balance Sheet date for an equivalent quantity).

A de minimis of £5k is set before a group of stock items would need to be accounted for at the year end.

1.27 Investments and Cash and Cash Equivalents

Investments

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The PCC will classify these as follows:

- Short-term deposits (due to be returned within any period from a day to a year after 31 March) held for investment purposes for the returns offered are classed as Short-term Investments;
- Deposits held for investment purposes for the returns offered which are due for return more than a year after 31 March are classed as Long Term Investments.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

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Cash Equivalents are held for the purpose of meeting short term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes. The PCC will classify these as other cash, on-call deposit accounts or banking facilities set up for the purpose of meeting short term liquidity requirements are classed as Cash and Cash Equivalents.

1.28 Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the PCC a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the PCC may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the PCC becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (eg from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the PCC settles the obligation.

1.29 Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability is where there is a possible obligation to transfer economic benefits due to a past event, but the possible obligation will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more events in the future, not wholly within the control of the PCC. 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.

The PCC discloses these obligations in the narrative notes to the accounts if greater than £100k.

These amounts are not recorded in the PCC's accounts because:

- It is not probable that an outflow of economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation, or
- The amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability at the year end.

1.30 Contingent Assets

A contingent asset is where there is a possible transfer of economic benefit to the PCC from a past event, but the possible transfer will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more events in the future. These events may not wholly be within the control of the PCC.

The PCC discloses these rights in the narrative notes to the accounts if greater than £100k.

1.31 Events after the Reporting Period

Events after the Balance Sheet date 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, but 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.

1.32 Recognition of Revenue (Income and Expenditure)

Revenue shall be measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised only when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the PCC.

1.33 Costs of Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to those that benefit from the supply or service in accordance with the costing principles of the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2015/16 (SeRCOP). The total absorption costing principle is used – the full cost of overheads and support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received, with the exception of:

- Corporate and Democratic Core – costs relating to the PCC's status as a multifunctional organisation;
- Non-Distributed Costs – the cost of discretionary benefits awarded to employees retiring early; impairment losses chargeable on Assets Held for Sale; and Innovation funding and income

These two cost categories are defined in SeRCOP and accounted for as separate headings in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as part of Net Expenditure on Continuing Services.

1.34 Value Added Tax (VAT)

The PCC's Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement excludes VAT. All VAT must be passed on to (where output tax exceeds input tax) or repaid by (where input tax exceeds output tax) HM Revenue and Customs.

The net amount due to or from HM Revenue and Customs for VAT at the year-end shall be included as part of creditors or debtors balance.

1.35 Reserves

a) Usable Reserves

The PCC's general revenue balances are held in the General Fund. The PCC also maintains a number of specific 'earmarked' reserves for future expenditure on either target service areas or to cover contingencies. They are described in more detail in notes to the accounts.

b) Unusable Reserves

Certain reserves are kept to maintain the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments and retirement benefits. These accounts do not represent usable resources for the PCC.

1.36 Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable During Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled wholly within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the PCC . An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the

following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday entitlements are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the PCC to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service or, where applicable, to the Non-distributed Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at the earlier of, when the PCC can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits; or when the PCC 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 PCC to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, 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

Employees of the PCC Group are members of two separate pension schemes:

- The Police Officer Pension Scheme, for which the scheme manager is the Chief Constable;
- The Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by West Yorkshire Pension Fund in a shared-service agreement with Lincolnshire Pension Fund.

Both schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

The Local Government Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the Lincolnshire pension fund attributable to the PCC are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – ie an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc, and projections of projected earnings for current employees;
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 3.2% (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality AA index corporate bonds;

- The assets of Lincolnshire pension fund attributable to the PCC 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.

The Police Officer Pension Scheme

The police officer pension schemes (both the old and new schemes) are accounted for as a defined benefit scheme:

- The liabilities of the Lincolnshire pension fund attributable to the Chief Constable are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – ie an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc, and projections of projected earnings for current employees;
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 3.2% (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality AA index corporate bonds;

Pension Scheme Policies

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

- Service cost comprising:
    - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked;
    - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs;
    - Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), ie net interest expense for the PCC – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period –

taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

- Remeasurements comprising:
  - 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 – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;
  - Contributions paid to the Lincolnshire pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the PCC to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are transfers 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 Pensions Reserve measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows, rather than when the benefits are earned by employees.

Discretionary Benefits

The PCC also 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 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.

Police Officer Pensions – Home Office Memorandum Account

From 1 April 2006 the Home Office changed the methods of financing police pensions. Effectively the PCC has continued to make payments but accounts for these outside of the accounts in a separate memorandum account. This is included as supplementary statement to the accounts.

1.37 Joint Operations

Joint operations are joint arrangements in which the PCC and other venturers have joint control of the arrangement. The parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the assets, and obligations for the liabilities, relating to

the arrangement. The PCC accounts for only its share of the joint operations assets, the liabilities and expenses that it incurs on its own behalf or jointly with others in respect of its interest in the joint operation and income that it earns from the venture.

1.38 Financial Instruments

1.38.1 Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the PCC becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

For all of the borrowings that the PCC has, this means that:

- The amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable, plus accrued interest and;
- Interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

The PCC has not undertaken any repurchasing or early settlement of borrowing.

1.38.2 Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified into four types: loans and receivables – assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market; available-for-sale assets – assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments; fair value through profit and loss – assets that are held for trading and derivatives with a positive value; and held for maturity – assets that have fixed or determinable payments and a fixed maturity.

The PCC only has loans and receivables.

1.38.3 Loans and Receivables

Loans and receivables are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the PCC becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument.

The PCC's loans and receivables comprise: short term investments, trade debtors, accrued income and 'other receivables'.

Loans and receivables are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using an effective interest method.