

**APPENDIX 4: Updated Crime Statistics and Infrastructure Costs Figures**

**Sandwell Local Plan: Regulation 19 Publication Version Local Plan  
Statistics and WMP Infrastructure Costs 2023.  
Submitted on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands  
(PCCWM)**

The following figures update those previously provided in our response to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (letter dated 26 September 2023).

Existing Policing within the West Midlands and within Sandwell

The table below provides a summary of the existing staff resource for WMP and in turn a proportional breakdown of staffing to serve the Sandwell area, based upon the Office of National Statistics (ONS) household figures for the West Midlands, and the respective Metropolitan Local Authority areas. We are advised that the below figures are accurate as of the current calendar year (2024).

Table 1: Existing Policing Details

	<b>WMP Force Area</b>	<b>Sandwell Area</b>
Police Officers	8,004	892
Police Staff	4,329	482
PCSOs	300	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,633</b>	<b>1,407</b>

WMP Vehicle Fleet

The WMP vehicle fleet is significant and made up of a wide variety of marked and unmarked vehicles to serve the requirements of the Force. Typically, patrol and response vehicles have an active 5-year life of provision, due to the demands placed upon the vehicles, with other vehicles having a life of provision up to 10 years. The condition of vehicles at the end of their Police life varies, however WMP forecast that they will redeem, on average, just 5% of the vehicles original value at the point of disposal.

We are advised that the WMP capital budget for their fleet is currently £5,700,500 for 2024. This equates to **£4.84 per household per year**, based on the 2024 ONS figures, or **£24.20 per 5-year life of provision**.

### WMP Infrastructure start-up costs 2024

We are advised that the infrastructure start-up costs per new Officer, and other Police Staff, are currently as set out below:

Table 2: Policing infrastructure start-up costs 2023

Item	Officer	PCSO	Staff
Uniform	£854.60	£810.31	£88.38
Airwave Radio	£955.14	£955.14	N/A
Mobility Device	£538.84	£538.84	£538.84
Body Worn Camera	£830.00	£830.00	N/A
M365 License	£311.11	£311.11	£311.11
Laptop	£1,589.19	£1,589.19	£1,589.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,078.88</b>	<b>£5,034.59</b>	<b>£2,527.52</b>

In addition, staff/officer start-up costs will also include the all-important related training costs, which WMP advise currently stand at:

Police Officer and PCSO - **£8,000.00** per new person.

Other Staff - **£691.00** per person.

### Existing Crime Statistics from WMP for 2023

The ONS population projections indicate that the expected number of households across the West Midlands for 2024 was 1,178,413. For the Sandwell area alone, the projected number of households is 131,269. In 2023 those figures were 1,170,711 and 130,399 respectively.

In 2023 (i.e. the last full calendar year), the total number of recorded Police incidents (i.e. those occasions when WMP were called upon to deploy 1 or more Officer(s) to an incident) was 770,335 for the entire force area. The actual number of crimes recorded, resulting from these incidents, was 340,094 crimes (which equated to 0.66 incidents/0.29 crimes per household, across the entire WMP force area).

The table below sets out these figures, along with those incident and crime figures relating to Sandwell by way of comparison, as highlighted, which coincidentally are very similar to the incidents/crimes per household for the whole force area.

Table 3: Actual Crime Statistics from 2023 (full calendar year)

	Households	Calls for Service	Offences	Calls for service per household	Offences per household
West Midlands	1,170,711	770,335	340,094	0.66	0.29
Sandwell	130,399	87,775	37,469	0.67	0.29

Applying a proportional factor to the Crime Statistics

On the basis of the above actual crime statistics, the following proportional factor could be applied to reliably predict the potential additional incidents/crimes which would be likely to occur within a calendar year upon completion as a result of the planned new housing development.

The proposed numbers of new homes of 10,434 would represent 8% increase in the number of households within Sandwell. If the same percentage increase is applied to the actual incident and crime statistics for the area, the predicted proportional additional and total incidents/crimes likely to occur within a calendar year are as set out in the following table.

Table 4: Predicted Crime Statistics

Existing Statistics for Sandwell (2023)		Predicted additional incidents/offences based upon 10,434 new homes (supply) 8% increase
No. of Households	130,399	10,434
No. of Calls for service	87,775	7,022
No. of Offences	37,469	2,998

### Future additional policing personnel requirements generated by the development

In calculating the likely personnel demands upon WMP generated by the proposed new homes the proportional figures for the Sandwell area set out in Table 1 (above) have been relied upon (i.e. 892 Police Officers, 482 Police Staff, and 33 PCSOs). The number of households served by the personnel summarised above within the Sandwell area is indicated as being 130,399 (as per Tables 3 and 4), based on ONS figures for 2023.

The proposed development of 10,434 net new homes represents an 8% increase in the number of households in Sandwell, and these percentage figures are applied to the existing police staff figures (as per Table 1) and results in the following calculation indicating the additional level of police personnel/staff required to serve the Sandwell area.

Table 5: Existing and Additional Policing Details

WMP Personnel	Existing WMP Force Area	Existing Sandwell Area	Extra Personnel - Apply 8% increase
Police Officers	8,004	892	<b>71</b>
Police Staff	4,329	482	<b>39</b>
PCSOs	300	33	<b>3</b>

On the basis of the above, therefore, the development of 10,434 new homes would attract an additional policing demand of 74 Officers/PCSOs and 39 Staff.

The use of such comparable statistics is a common approach used to identify the impact of additional development and population within an area on most public services and is therefore equally relevant for the future policing demands on WMP that would arise from the proposed development, based upon actual demand and crime statistics.

### **WMP Infrastructure needs**

The WMP infrastructure needs considers the number of new homes proposed and compares this with existing policing demand and recorded crime information (not the same thing) for the Sandwell area as has been summarised above.

It is acknowledged that these new homes would come forward, subject to planning permission, at various times over the plan period and not all at once. However, on behalf of the PCCWM we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these requirements further with Council Officers and play an active role in ensuring that the needs and identified levels of funding are provided, and also share any further information and future changes to WMP infrastructure requirements and priorities.

In the meantime, **on the basis of the current information available to us**, we calculate that based upon both the housing supply and housing need figures identified previously, that the following total WMP Infrastructure costs would arise, which should be funded via either CIL and/or S.106 contributions.

***Based upon the planned 10,434 housing supply figure:***

- Training costs @ £8,000 per Officer/PCSO and £691 for Police Staff = **£618,949.00**
- Start-Up costs @ £5,078.88 per Officer; £5,034.59 PCSO (to include Uniform, and itemised equipment as per Table 2); and £2,527.55 for Police Staff = **£474,278.70**
- Patrol vehicles @ £24.20 per household (for 5 year of life provision) = **£252,502.80**

TOTAL = **£1,345,730.50**, which equates to **£128.98 per dwelling**. This figure should also be index linked

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