

**GWENT POLICE AUTHORITY**  
**AUDIT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**Item No:** 7h

**Heading:** Urgent Virement Authorisation Report

**Report Author:** Chief Constable

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**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Members authorisation for a budget virement of £287,868 in respect of the recycling of Crime Investigation posts to Neighbourhood Policing.

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**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That Members approve the budget virement of £287,868.

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**BACKGROUND**

- 1 As part of the 2011 Review an additional Surveillance Team was proposed and incorporated within the authorised police officer establishment for the Crime Investigation Service Area.
- 2 The Crime Investigation Senior Management Team have monitored the performance and capacity of the authorised establishment and have developed an understanding of the demands faced within each team of the new structure, including the crime elements of Neighbourhood Policing. It has been identified that inequality of resource allocations exist between differing teams.

**CURRENT POSITION**

- 3 As part of the Crime Investigation establishment proposal under the 2011 Review, an additional Surveillance capability consisting of 16 detective constables and 1 detective sergeant was identified and incorporated within its authorised establishment. The Crime Investigation Senior Management Team have reviewed the performance of existing Surveillance resources and recognised that the necessary improvements can be achieved with fewer additional officers than those originally proposed. The proposed requirement

being 6 detective constables which releases 10 detective constable posts and 1 detective sergeant post to address inequalities of allocation in other areas.

- 4 Additional resources have been allocated to the Serious Sexual Crime Team (2 wte detective constables), Serious Violent Crime Team (1 wte detective constable) and the Protecting Vulnerable People Team (2 wte detective constables) where shortfalls in capacity have been identified. Since these are internal movements within the Crime Investigation Service Area these have been facilitated by means of a budget adjustment.
- 5 It has also been identified that there have been significant pressures within the Neighbourhood Support Teams (Newport and Caerphilly) and also the Serious Crime Tasking Team. These Teams provide crime investigation support within the Neighbourhood Policing Service Area. Detailed examination by the Service Area leads and their respective Senior Management Teams have identified the requirement for 6 additional detective constables (2 NST Newport, 2 NST Caerphilly, 2 Serious Crime Tasking).
- 6 These proposals represent a net saving of £5,860 due to the requirement for an additional detective constable post, instead of an additional detective sergeant post as originally budgeted.
- 7 To allow effective financial control and management it is necessary to carry out a virement of budgetary funds from the Crime Investigation Service Area to the Neighbourhood Policing Service Area.
- 8 This virement is in the sum of £287,868 and in accordance with the Authority's Standing Orders, as this virement exceeds £80,000, approval is sought from Members for it to be actioned.
- 9 The above proposals have undergone challenge and examination from Chief Officers who have given their authorisation.

### **STAFFING/PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10 There are no staffing/personal implications arising from this report.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11 As detailed above.

### **CONSULTATION**

- 12 Senior Management Teams (Crime Investigation and Neighbourhood Policing). This proposal has also been considered by Chief Officers.

## **PROJECT ASSESSMENT FOR EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY MATTERS**

- 13 The content of this report has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Police Authority's Equality Schemes, and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 14 Insufficient capacity in key areas of the Force.

## **STAYING AHEAD (2011 REVIEW)**

- 15 The content of this report has implications for the 2011 Review in relation to the resource allocation across Service Areas during 2009/10 and beyond.

## **CONCLUSION**

- 16 The authorisation of this virement request will facilitate better allocation of resources across Service Areas.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

- 17 Detective Chief Superintendent Ray Wise.  
Stephen Thomas, Management Accountant.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 18 None.

## **APPENDICES**

- 19 None.