

D7 THE HOME OFFICE, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND LAW OFFICERS' DEPARTMENTS

The Home Office, Ministry of Justice, and Law Officers' Departments all received early 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) settlements, which gave these departments more time to plan their long-term strategy and facilitated the transfer of responsibilities and resources associated with the creation of the Ministry of Justice on 9 May 2007.

The 2007 CSR confirms the following settlements:

- additional resources of £220 million a year by 2010-11 have been made available for the Home Office as part of the cross-government CSR07 settlement for counter-terrorism, increasing its budget from £9.2 billion in 2007-08 to £10.3 billion in 2010-11, equivalent to average real growth of 1.1 per cent a year;
- the Ministry of Justice's budget will rise from £9.5 billion in 2007-08 to £9.7 billion in 2010-11, together with modernisation funding of over £100 million for the transformation of the courts and tribunals service; and
- the Law Officers' Departments are taking forward an ambitious value for money programme which will see their budget fall by 3.2 per cent in real terms over the CSR07 period, supported by £19 million in modernisation funding.

Together with value for money reforms generating annual net cash-releasing savings of over £2.5 billion by 2010-11, these settlements provide for the delivery of:

- a comprehensive strategy to **reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism;**
- a **new crime strategy** with a stronger focus on serious violence and more freedom and flexibility for local partners and the frontline;
- the establishment of a new **National Fraud Strategic Authority, Lead Police Force and National Fraud Reporting Centre** to strengthen efforts in tackling fraud;
- a **robust approach to serious and violent offenders with 9,500 new prison places**, of which 8,500 will be in place by 2012;
- a **new alcohol strategy** focusing on the groups which cause the most harm and a **new drugs strategy to be published in April 2008 to improve prevention and treatment;**
- **investment in neighbourhood policing** to ensure it is embedded across the country, enabling forces to better respond to local concerns, increase intelligence and build up trust; and
- **managed migration, harnessing its benefits while further securing the UK's borders** with increased investment in a new e-Borders system to count people coming in and going out of the country, and implementation of a new points-based migration system that will ensure the UK gets the skilled migrants it needs for economic growth.

Responding to challenges ahead

D7.1 The Government is committed to building a tolerant and just society, underpinned by safer and stronger communities. Over the last decade it has delivered sustained investment coupled with reform to deliver these objectives, helping deliver a reduction in crime of around one third in the last ten years. Prison capacity has increased by 20,000 places since 1997. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and police are working more closely together to ensure the charge is right first time, and over 1.4 million offences were brought to justice in the last year, an increase of 40 per cent since March 2002. The number of people in drug

treatment has more than doubled. In 1998 the Government legislated to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights so that everyone can enforce their human rights through the UK courts. And the introduction of firmer, faster and fairer immigration and asylum systems has increased border security while ensuring the UK economy continues to benefit from migration.

Responding to challenges ahead

D7.2 However, a more mobile and diverse society poses new challenges to the criminal justice system. A range of complex and interconnected trends and risks, both at home and abroad, will shape the safety and security of UK citizens over the next decade. The threat to the UK from terrorist attack remains high, requiring a co-ordinated response across departments to protect the public's safety. The misuse of drugs and alcohol continues to be among the biggest drivers of crime, requiring continued efforts to tackle both the causes and the anti-social behaviour that can result. Migration is delivering greater economic benefits to the UK than ever before, but this must be accompanied by concerted action to prevent abuse of immigration laws.

HOME OFFICE

D7.3 To strengthen the UK's capacity to deal with the real and unprecedented threat of terrorism, the Prime Minister announced in March 2007 a strengthened role for the Home Secretary, and the creation of the Office for Security and Counter-terrorism within the Home Office. The subsequent changes to the structure of the Home Office in May 2007 have focused the department more clearly on the Government's objectives for crime, counter-terrorism and immigration. **Over the CSR07 period the Home Office will deliver the following Departmental Strategic Objectives to:**

- help people feel secure in their homes and local communities;
- cut crime, especially violent, drug and alcohol related crime;
- lead visible, responsive and accountable policing;
- protect the public from terrorism;
- secure our borders and control migration for the benefit of our country;
- safeguard people's identity and the privileges of citizenship; and
- support the efficient and effective delivery of justice.

D7.4 The Home Office will also lead delivery of the cross-governmental Public Service Agreements (PSAs) to make communities safer; reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism; reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs; and ensure controlled, fair migration that protects the public and contributes to economic growth.

Resources and reform

D7.5 The early settlement for the Home Office announced at Budget 2006 locked in the historically high funding of the last decade, enabling the Home Office to retain the cash-releasing savings from its ambitious value for money programme worth an annual £1.4 billion by 2010-11. With the help of the new National Police Improvement Agency, the police service is identifying and building on the impressive results of existing pilots to drive out cash-releasing savings of over £900 million and improve performance across the service. **On**

top of these resources and savings, the CSR07 counter-terrorism settlement provides the Home Office with an additional £220 million a year by 2010-11, delivering overall increases in the department's budget of 1.1 per cent a year in real terms over the CSR07 period.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

D7.6 The Ministry of Justice was created on 9 May 2007. It assumed the functions of the former Department for Constitutional Affairs (DCA), alongside responsibility for the National Offender Management Service and trilateral responsibility for the Office for Criminal Justice Reform. **The Ministry of Justice has set the following Departmental Strategic Objectives:**

- support a vigorous democracy in which everyone can influence decisions which affect their lives;
- support the efficient and effective delivery of justice;
- help to protect the public and reduce re-offending;
- work to create a culture of rights and responsibilities so both can be delivered effectively; and
- help to avoid and resolve civil and family disputes.

D7.7 The Ministry of Justice will also lead delivery of the cross-governmental Public Service Agreement (PSA) to deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive criminal justice system for victims and the public.

Resources and reform

D7.8 Resource for prisons and probation have increased by over 40 per cent in real terms since 1997, with resources this year 8 per cent higher than 2006-07, funding an increase in prison capacity of 20,000 places and 7,000 more probation workers. The early settlement for the Home Office and the subsequent transfer of prisons and probation to the Ministry of Justice locked in this record investment with funding transferring for the CSR07 years in line with 2007-08 levels in real terms. Over the CSR07 period, the Ministry of Justice, building on plans from the DCA, will be taking forward value for money programmes generating annual net cash-releasing savings of over £1 billion by 2010-11. This allows the Ministry to continue to deliver on its priorities in within budgets falling by 1.7 per cent a year in real terms over the CSR07 period. The value for money programme includes reforms in the Probation Service to improve processes and ensure all probation boards deliver as efficiently as the best performers. Reform of legal aid will also deliver annual net cash-releasing savings of £193 million by 2010-11.

LAW OFFICERS' DEPARTMENTS

D7.9 The Law Officers' Departments have set the following Departmental Strategic Objectives:

- Crown Prosecution Service – to bring offenders to justice, improve services to victims and witnesses and promote confidence, by applying the code for Crown Prosecutors, adopting a proportionate approach to determine which offenders should be charged and which should be diverted from court, and by ensuring the firm and fair presentation of cases in court;
- Revenue and Customs Prosecutions Office – to continue to be an effective and independent prosecuting authority which commands the confidence of the public, the judiciary and the legal profession;
- Serious Fraud Office – to investigate and prosecute cases of serious or complex fraud in England and Wales, thus contributing to deterring fraud in England and Wales, sustaining the delivery of justice and the rule of law and maintaining confidence in the UK's business and financial institutions; and
- Treasury Solicitor's Department – to provide high quality legal services to enable clients to operate effectively within the law, maximise the value of legal services, minimise legal risk and achieve best outcomes.

Resources and reform

D7.10 Over the CSR07 period, the Law Officers' Departments will be taking forward value for money programmes generating annual net cash-releasing savings of £79 million by 2010-11. Together with £19 million of modernisation funding, this programme will allow the departments to continue to deliver on their priorities with budgets falling by 3.2 per cent in real terms over the CSR. The value for money programmes include the Crown Prosecution Service generating savings of more than £34 million by 2010-11 through streamlining and improving operational processes.

DELIVERING ON PRIORITIES

Counter terrorism **D7.11** The creation of the Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism will enable the Home Office to lead more effectively the cross government effort to reduce the risk of international terrorism in the UK. The Department will continue to work closely with the Security and Intelligence Agencies, other government departments and international partners.

Crime **D7.12** The Government's new crime strategy, *Cutting Crime, a new partnership 2008-11*, sets out a more holistic approach to tackling crime, from prevention through to rehabilitation, with a stronger focus on tackling serious violence, and continued pressure on anti-social behaviour. It describes a more mature relationship with local partners, allowing crime reduction agencies much greater flexibility on how they respond to local priorities. Alongside this, a new £50 million fund will give the police access to modern crime fighting technology such as mobile fingerprinting devices.

- Fraud D7.13** Building on the recommendations of the Fraud Review, the Government is providing an additional £11 million by 2010-11 to establish a National Fraud Strategic Authority, Lead Police Force, and National Fraud Reporting Centre. These bodies, working with existing agencies, will enable the UK to develop for the first time a managed programme that attacks fraud through the entire pipeline of deterrence, prevention, detection, investigations, sanctions and redress, promoting a strong anti-fraud culture across government, industry and society.
- Prisons D7.14** The Government has announced that a further 9,500 prison places will be made available, and firm plans are already in place to deliver 8,500 of these by 2012. Investment in probation has allowed an expansion of tough and effective community sentences, supported by a 30 per cent increase in staff numbers. The Government will continue to invest in reducing reoffending and protecting the public. Through the development of offender management and much closer partnership working at national, regional and local levels, the Ministry of Justice will build on the reduction in reoffending already achieved. The Government has asked Lord Carter of Coles to conduct a review of the prison estate, the efficiency of HM Prison Service, and sentencing. He will report later this year.
- Drugs and alcohol D7.15** Drug misuse can perpetuate the social exclusion of users and families, and is a key driver of crime. Research shows that retention in effective treatment can reduce criminality among users by up to 50 per cent. Since 1998, there has been a 128 per cent increase in the treatment population, giving England one of the largest drug treatment programmes of any large Western country. The current 10 year strategy ends in 2008 and a new drugs strategy will be developed following a national consultation with key stakeholders and communities. The updated alcohol strategy *Safe. Sensible. Social. The next steps in the alcohol strategy*, builds on progress so far and will focus on the minority of drinkers who cause or experience the most harm to themselves, their communities and their families.
- Neighbourhood Policing D7.16** The Government is committed to rolling out Neighbourhood Policing Teams in every neighbourhood across England and Wales by 2008, supported by Police Community Support Officers. This will enable the police to better understand and address local concerns and priorities, building trusting relationships with communities to facilitate better flows of intelligence, and ensure that the police work with other local delivery agencies to ensure effective management of neighbourhoods.
- Managed Migration D7.17** Migration delivers huge economic benefits to the UK through growth, employment and tax revenues. Alongside maximising these benefits the Government must ensure the UK border is secure and that the immigration laws are respected. The Government set out its plans to deliver on these objectives in the reform document *Fair, Effective, Transparent and Trusted*, which was published by the Border and Immigration Agency in July 2006. The Government is delivering a points-based system for managed migration which will facilitate the migration of those whose skills are valuable to the UK economy, or who seek to study in the UK. It will also increase the use of technology at the border, including biometrics to ensure those who come to the UK have a right to do so. Investment of over £400 million in a new e-Borders system will allow people to be counted in and out of the country. In addition, a new Unified Border Force will strengthen the powers and surveillance capability of the agencies who work to control immigration, tackle crime and facilitate trade and travel.

Table D11: Home Office¹ baseline and additions

	£ million			
	Baseline	Additions		
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Resource DEL	8,577	468	716	1,010
<i>of which near-cash</i>	8,351	492	745	1,048
<i>of which administration</i>	440	-11	-21	-31
Capital DEL	803	50	-21	50
Total DEL²	9,214	546	728	1,101

¹ Includes Assets Recovery Agency.

² Full resource budgeting basis, net of depreciation.

Table D12: Ministry of Justice baseline and additions

	£ million			
	Baseline	Additions		
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Resource DEL	9,170	162	211	270
<i>of which near-cash</i>	8,539	114	141	175
<i>of which administration</i>	459	-11	-21	-33
Capital DEL	688	4	92	57
Total DEL¹	9,465	140	256	259

¹ Full resource budgeting basis, net of depreciation.

Table D13: Law Officers' Departments baseline and additions

	£ million			
	Baseline	Additions		
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Resource DEL	728	-3	-9	-14
<i>of which near-cash</i>	717	-3	-9	-14
<i>of which administration</i>	72	2	0	0
Capital DEL	13	0	0	0
Total DEL¹	732	-3	-9	-15

¹ Full resource budgeting basis, net of depreciation.